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THE NEWSPAPER FOR FOLKESTONE, HYTHE AND DISTRICT

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HOPES RISE AS LIFT FUND NEARS TARGET

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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Police are called to a tragic scene in Cheriton Road, Folkestone. Search 'Cheriton'

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TRANSPORT OF DELIGHT

The Leas lift carriage is lifted off the tracks in October 2006 to undergo restoration. Fund-raisers say that they have collected most of the £25,000 needed for the work and aim to ensure the iconic structure is returned to the town and put on permanent display at the top of the old cliff railway.

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

THE Leas lift carriage is a step closer to making its return to Folkestone as campaigners near their fund-raising target of £25,000.

The iconic feature is to be restored to its former glory by a master craftsman and placed at the top of the track as part of a wider project to renovate the Road of Remembrance.

The carriage, one of two that used to operate on the cliff-face between The Leas and Lower Sandgate Road, was taken away two years ago after making an initial first return to Folkestone from Dover Transport Museum in 2003.

The other carriage which operated on the now-disused line was removed and dismantled by Shepway council in 1985.

Jack Gill, chairman of the 1890 Leas Lift Step Carriage Restoration Appeal team, said the people of Folkestone were "very conscious of its history and really appreciate what an asset it is to the town".

He said original plans to place the carriage on a plinth in Lower Sandgate Road surrounded by new shops and a cafe had to be abandoned due to the economic downturn.

"It would be rather absurd and would stick out like a sore thumb if the carriage was placed there permanently without any development around it," he said.

"The location at the top of the cliff railway would be preferable as there would be better and easier access – it would be part of the Step Short programme for the Road of Remembrance and generally enhance Folkestone.

"The alternative proposal is to move it back to a museum and that's not acceptable."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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2 Threshold is a most intimate drama experience. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and see the leisure channel.



3 The second part of an insight into Ashford cattle market. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'cattle'.

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Turbine site not windy enough, say residents

■ BY NICK AMES

A WIND farm near Aldington would not generate enough electricity to make any impact on the National Grid, say local residents – because the area isn't windy enough.

Plans for three turbines – taller than those on Romney Marsh – have been put forward by consultants Arup, hired by the Partnership for Renewables, a group which is examining sites across the UK.

Aldington parish council vice-chairman Alison Finn said: "I don't think we have enough wind around here to make them effective. It's a sheltered place.

"As far as I understand it, they need wind to generate electricity – well, there's not enough of it around here."

Astonished

It has also emerged that the land identified for the proposed wind farm is the same as that which has been earmarked by the county council for a lorry park.

Locals say they are astonished at the lack of communication between the development bodies.

Aldington parish councillor Peter Kemp said: "Why don't they talk to us when all these development proposals are going ahead?"

"We are the people who live here and know the area.

"We really don't get a say, do we? I hope I am not here to see it, but I can envisage a time in the not too distant future when our village is linked with Folkestone or Ashford in an urban sprawl.

"As for these turbines – I'd really rather not see them. I know they are on Romney Marsh, which at least has some wind, but they are a blot on the landscape there as well."

The three turbine locations – each 125 metres tall in total with a rotor blade diameter of 90m – would be near the Sellindge converter station, between the M20 and Channel



INEFFECTIVE: Sheltered site is not windy enough for wind farm to generate power, say villagers

Tunnel Rail Link and on the other side of the rail tracks.

Mrs Finn said: "These plans just seem to have been put together – there are lots of these sorts of schemes flying around.

"We had a meeting of the parish council a couple of weeks ago and nothing was mentioned.

"If anything concrete comes up, then we can make our views known."

A spokesman for Partnership For Renewables said: "We are investigating thousands of sites across the UK and this is one of them.

"We are committed to only developing wind turbines in locations where conditions are appropriate and that is what our consultants are attempting to discover."

A spokesman for KCC said that no formal proposals had been received from the developer.

Ride in old carriage an 'adventure'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Mr Gill, 83, said that he recalled riding the carriage was "quite an adventure" during the pre-war years and that it cost a halfpenny to use... "an appreciable sum during those days".

The carriage was first brought back to Folkestone by the group's treasurer Bob Moulard and is being kept at Ash pending restoration work.

The intention is to preserve as much of the original material as possible, with the steel chassis needing extensive work due to prolonged exposure to the sea air.

Otherwise, the structure of the cabin is in good condition, with AC Tripodi of Ramsgate undertaking the work.

An estimated 90 per cent of the £25,000 needed to pay for the restoration has been raised, thanks to grants from Shepway council, Kent County Council and individual donations.

On Monday, a clairvoyance evening in aid of the appeal is to be held at Folkestone Masonic Hall, Grace Hill.

It starts at 7.30pm and admission is £5. To find out more or to give to the appeal, go to www.leaslift.org.uk, or phone Mr Moulard on 01303 254273.

Device to keep tabs on speeding drivers

POLICE are using new technology to help respond to speeding concerns in Hawkinge.

The neighbourhood policing team in Shepway is using a Speed Indicator Display (SID) at the roadside at various sites. It shows how fast each passing vehicle is travelling.

If the SID signals that a vehicle is speeding, the registration details are taken and a letter is sent to the owner advising them to keep within the speed limit in future.

If a motorist is repeatedly shown speeding by the SID, then enforcement action may be taken.

Police officers will also be using hand-held enforcement cameras at the roadside over the next few weeks and taking action against any motorist who breaks the speed limit.

PCSO Sarah Wallace and Hawkinge KCC Warden Tanya Clark have organised the crackdown on speeding, in response to residents' concerns and Hawkinge parish council.

PCSO Wallace said: "The problem of speeding has been highlighted by a number of people, so we will be using the SID to educate drivers, to raise awareness of their speed and to promote safety on the roads."

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Prince Charles presents medal to philanthropist and town champion

Former Saga boss De Haan receives royal recognition

ROGER De Haan has been recognised for his contribution to Folkestone by becoming one of the first people to receive a new royal medal.

On Thursday, the Prince of Wales presented the former head of Saga with one of only five medals for arts philanthropy, intended to celebrate those who support the arts in its widest forms.

Nick Ewbank, director of the Creative Foundation, said the current success of Folkestone's regeneration was due to a combination of Mr De Haan's personal generosity, his business acumen and clear vision.

"Roger has a strong sense of community and he has worked tirelessly to establish a model of arts-led investment in Folkestone that could work equally well in other locations across the country," he said.

Alan Davey, chief executive of the Arts Council, said: "He cared deeply

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

that the historic centre shouldn't be given over to the kind of development that didn't give anything back.

"We all theorise about cultural regeneration – he's just put his money where his mouth is and got on and done it. He's a hero, really."

Mr De Haan, a life-long resident of the town, is the son of the late Sydney De Haan, who in the 1950s created the Saga group.

Best known for offering holidays, insurance and financial services to the over-50s, Saga is Folkestone's largest employer.

Mr De Haan took over the business in 1984 on his father's retirement and sold the company 20 years later to concentrate on an ambitious programme of renewal and regeneration for Folkestone, focusing on culture and the arts to breathe new life into the town.

Other recipients of the medal were

Dame Vivien Duffield CBE, Dr Carol Høgel CBE, Dr Martin, Carmel Naughton and Lord and Lady Sainsbury.

The honourees were chosen after the Prince of Wales's arts advisory group drew up a shortlist of 20 philanthropists.

Inspiration

This went forward to a final judging panel which included actress Joanna Lumley, director of the Royal Ballet Dame Monica Mason and artist Christopher Le Brun.

The medals will be presented annually.

Colin Tweedy, chief executive of Arts and Business, which introduced the medals, said: "The arts are the standard by which we as individuals and our society as a whole will be judged."

"Patrons, both corporate and individual, have held their place in history throughout the centuries."

"Their example acts as an inspiration to us all."



MEDAL CITIZEN: Roger De Haan's philanthropy has been rewarded by the Prince of Wales

Crews find hanged man

THE body of a 34-year-old man was found hanging from scaffolding in Cheriton Road, Folkestone, on Saturday.

The case is being treated by police as a suspected suicide.

Fire crews arrived and closed the road at 3.20pm for more than two hours while the man's body was recovered.

Police are not treating the death as suspicious and are compiling a report for the inquest.

The scaffolding was fitted to a private address in the road and the man is said to be from the town.

Dungeness makes 'authentic' top 50

WITH its two nuclear power stations and lighthouses, Dungeness does not immediately inspire comparisons with Venice's canals or downtown Los Angeles.

Nevertheless, the village has been ranked alongside the likes of Zanzibar, Antigua and Paris as one of the world's 50 most "authentic" places to visit, according to a new travel guide.

The definition of authenticity for places on the list, in the November edition of the British Airways High Life magazine, was that each one had to be "comfortable in its own skin", regardless of how many tourists visit.

Alain de Botton, the philosopher and travel author, wrote in his contribution to the magazine that despite the "unprepossessing piece of technology" of the power station, Dungeness is "actually a beautiful rugged stretch of shingle coast, dotted with vividly-painted claspboard houses."

The "sublime empty skies and bracing winds" are also cited by Mr de Botton as the reasons artists and painters have settled in the area over the years, including, most

famously, Derek Jarman. The filmmaker set up home at Prospect Cottage facing the nuclear station in the years before his death in 1994.

His shingle garden was created from debris found on the beach, the photographs of which have been seen by millions around the world.

Inspiration

About 80 converted railway carriages, set up as chalets in the 1920s during its peak as a holiday resort, still sell for an average £150,000 despite the recession.

The RSPB reserve has also drawn many people to the area.

Other panellists who helped compile the list included former Mirror editor Piers Morgan and novelist Will Self.

The list covers areas as diverse as Lord Howe Island in the South Pacific and the Patanal wetlands of Brazil.

Other local places listed include Deal and Ramsgate, with the former described as having an important history which "it wears publicly but lightly", while the latter has an "authentic mix of the raffish and the bohemian".

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An intriguing arts project in
Folkestone. Search 'threshold'

Airport plans 'not gone unnoticed'

THREE aviation companies are in talks with London Ashford Airport at Lydd about the possibility of establishing operations there, according to site bosses.

The announcement comes as the senior management team there awaits a decision from Shepway council on planning applications for a new terminal building and a runway extension.

LAA managing director Cliff Spink says that Lydd's multi-million-pound development proposals have not gone unnoticed in the international air transport industry.

The airport says it has recently been approached by a charter airline group, an aviation supplies provider and a specialist aircraft engineering and maintenance firm.

Mr Spink said: "Our ambitious plans to deliver a first-class modern regional airport and aircraft service facility are really making the industry sit up and take notice."

"These are serious enquiries from three well-established businesses and we have embarked on a series of confidential negotiations which I hope will lead to the creation of vital jobs for local communities."

Lottery funding a boost for woodland

HYPHE town council has won Lottery funding for environmental improvements at Eaton Lands.

The Hythe Civic Society has also received a further £2,000 from Shepway council towards information panels.

The total cost of the scheme is £16,000.

Bird-boxes have already been placed to encourage species such as tawny owls to nest, and work is due to begin on bulb-planting in the woodland and decking in the quarry walkway area.

Planting took place on Sunday and yesterday as part of National Tree Week.

Eaton Lands forms some 40 acres, comprising mixed woodland, a former quarry, a grass area with goalposts and picnic benches, a wildflower meadow and two allotment sites.

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Folkestone Creative Foundation's annual report. Search 'creative'



CYRIL THE CENTURION

A Shepway police officer who has celebrated his 100th birthday has been presented with a certificate thanking him for his long service.

Cyril Foreman was born on November 10, 1908, in Maidstone and celebrated his centenary at a party in New Romney, where Temporary Chief Superintendent Debbie Doe gave him the certificate on behalf of the Chief Constable.

Cyril became PC 252 on February 1, 1929, starting his career at Northfleet before serving in various beats including Faversham, Brookland, New Romney and Lydd.

In 1955 he was seconded to the British Police Unit in Cyprus and returned to Kent in 1957, when he was made sergeant.

He retired from Kent County Constabulary on May 25, 1960, after 31 years and 116 days and his character was shown as "exemplary".

Cyril received a commendation in January 1948 for a good arrest relating to the theft of metal in Dymchurch and was presented with his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on October 31, 1951.

Proposals aim to tackle travellers site shortage

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

TRAVELLING families could be given dedicated areas to stay in the district after the introduction of new Government guidelines.

Shepway councillors voted last month in favour of allocating two pitches to members of the gypsy and travelling community, believing it to be the best of four possible options. Other proposals on the table would have seen up to 13 pitches being created.

Adrian Hammond, the council's housing strategy manager, said the decision was based on "identified need" and assessments of what was required and that alternative proposals would disproportionately affect Shepway.

He said: "The other options would involve redistributing travellers across the whole of the county, including Shepway, but we have to respect the views of other people who live and work here."

"We also take into account other factors such as family connections, employment and roads access."

Asked if there were any specific areas lined up as designated sites, Mr Hammond said no locations had been identified and further consultation was needed before any more progress could be made.

"Each district has to act within its local plan, but individual travellers could come forward to buy their own land if they have the resources."

Electricity

Local authorities are under instructions by the Government to provide some 7,500 extra pitches for gypsy and traveller camps across the country, including providing waste collection, running water, electricity and other services. Each pitch is enough to accommodate one or two families.

According to the charity Friends, Travellers And Families, there are some 25,000 gipsies and travellers who do not have fixed places to live. About £17 million is being awarded to help with providing extra space in the South East.

Other options presented before Shepway councillors at their meeting on November 11 included allowing 13 pitches in the district, based on "social and environmental factors" and moving more gipsies from west to east Kent.

A report prepared for the council's community overview committee said that this option "ignores the expressed views and needs of the gypsy and traveller community in Shepway and the wider Kent area."

Options C and D, as put forward by the South East England Regional Assembly, would involve redistributing 50 per cent and 25 per cent of the community throughout the region, leading to ten and 13 pitches respectively.

All three do not take into account the preferences of the travellers as assessed by the council, according to the report.

The council's decision will now go back to SEERA, which will then recommend its preferred option to the Government in the New Year.

Further consultation will follow in the spring before final details are published about the number of pitches each authority should provide.

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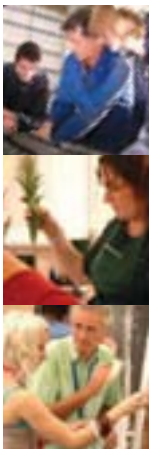
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Raided church wins approval for 'fake' lead



HEAVY BURDEN: St Mary and St Ethelburga's Church wants to replace stolen lead with a cheaper substitute

A HISTORIC village church has been given permission to replace its stolen lead roofing with a cheaper substitute, despite opposition from conservation groups.

St Mary and St Ethelburga's Church in Lyminge faced having its application refused after English Heritage and council officers said the material would be out of character and send "the wrong message" to neighbouring parishes which have suffered from similar thefts.

However, Shepway's development control committee has decided to approve the scheme, much to the delight of the Rev Peter Ashman of the Lyminge church.

He said: "We are pleased Shepway council decided to approve our application. We have looked into this extensively and this is the best alternative.

"I can understand why English Heritage and others disapprove and would prefer that we used lead, but it is simply not feasible to put it on as we can only insure up to the value of £15,000.

"The full cost to replace the lead roof would be £100,000 and people in the village would think we would be crazy to do so given what has happened."

The proposed lead substitute, Sarnafil, was not suitable, according to English Heritage,

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

and would "adversely affect the character, appearance and integrity" of the Grade I-listed building.

It has been used as a replacement for other churches and historic buildings, including Norwich Castle.

A spokesman said in the heritage group's representation to the committee: "In my opinion, the only material that looks like lead is lead, and nothing else comes close in terms of longevity and protection to a medieval roof structure.

"As only three per cent of listed buildings are Grade I-listed, it is even more important to ensure appropriate materials are used to respect the character and integrity of this building."

The church is one of about 50 across the county to have suffered metal thefts in the past year, due to the sharp increase in the value of raw materials.

Thieves struck in the middle of the night three months ago when they took lead from the nave roof. A temporary felt covering has been used in its place since.

Mr Ashman told Yourshepway the application would now go to the diocese advisory committee before final approval for the repairs could be authorised, which he estimated could take another three months.

yourshepway

NEWS IN BRIEF

A chance to shop local with Santa

LATE-NIGHT opening in Folkestone's Creative Quarter offers the chance to meet Father Christmas.

The independent shops and galleries on Tontine Street and the Old High Street will be open every Thursday evening until December 18, with a Christmas grotto at 45 Old High Street.

Father Christmas will greet children, accompanied by an adult, every Thursday evening until December 18, from 3pm-7pm, and every Saturday and Sunday until December 20-21, from 10am-4pm, for just 50 pence.

Sharon Senior, business development manager at the Creative Foundation, said: "The Creative Quarter is a great place to find individual gifts and treats."

Meanwhile, in Hythe, late-night shopping is returning at Christmas.

After several years of trying a 'Sunday Funday' to tempt festive shoppers, the High Street will be the place to be for entertainment and shopping on Thursday, December 11, from 6pm-9pm.

PCSO advises Scouts on personal safety

MEMBERS of the 1st Cheriton Scout Group have been getting first-hand advice on crime and personal safety.

Police community support officer Keith Sansum, of the Cheriton neighbourhood policing team, spent an evening with the Cheriton and Hawkinge youngsters.

He asked the group of some 40 boys and girls questions and they discussed safety issues.

PCSO Sansum said: "It was good to meet the Scouts and also for them to get to know me as someone they can contact if they need advice or help."

Contact PCSO Sansum on 07772 226208 or at keith.sansum@kent.pnn.police.uk.

Hit-and-run checks

POLICE officers carried out road checks at the weekend as part of an investigation into a suspected hit-and-run incident.

Michael Pritchard, 49, from Dover, died at Ashford's William Harvey Hospital after being struck by a vehicle in Princess Parade, Hythe, on November 22.

Officers spoke to motorists between 4.30pm and 5.30pm on Saturday to encourage witnesses to come forward.

The death is being treated as suspicious. If you can help, phone 01303 289605 or Crimestoppers, in confidence, on 0800 555111.

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Rare American guest has been a pleasure

This green heron spent some three weeks on the Royal Military Canal at West Hythe.

It is an American species and this was only the sixth individual to be recorded in the UK.

The bird was aged as a first-winter, meaning it was born earlier this year. It fed well, taking good numbers of small fish such as perch, so it was surprising to hear reports that it was looking emaciated shortly before its last sighting.

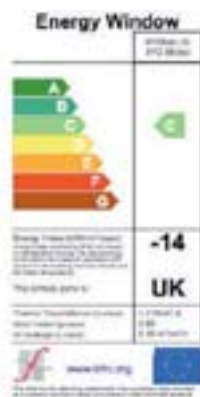
Hopefully, however, it was in fine health and simply moved on somewhere else – it certainly gave many people much pleasure during its stay in Shepway.

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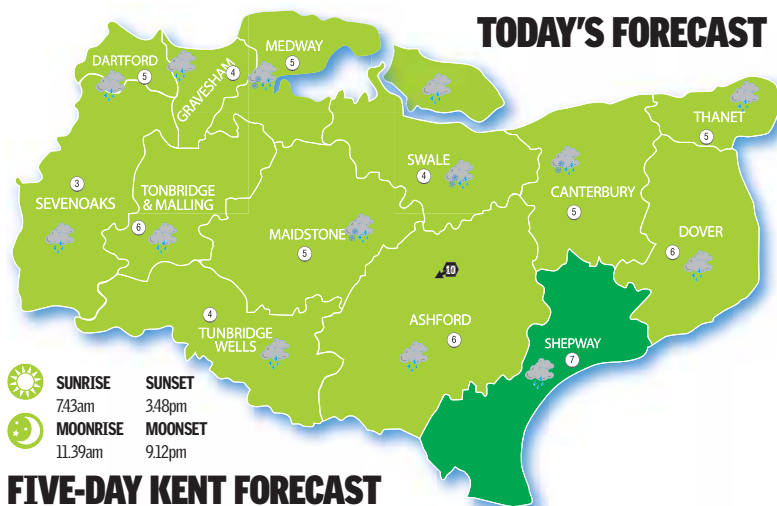
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FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	6°C	5°C	8°C	7°C	7°C	Gravesend	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Canterbury	5°C	5°C	8°C	7°C	7°C	Maidstone	5°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Chatham	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Ramsgate	5°C	5°C	8°C	7°C	7°C
Dartford	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Rochester	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Dover	5°C	6°C	7°C	7°C	7°C	Sevenoaks	4°C	3°C	7°C	6°C	6°C
Faversham	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Sittingbourne	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Folkestone	5°C	6°C	7°C	7°C	7°C	Tonbridge	5°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	7°C
Gillingham	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Tun Wells	5°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	7°C



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	4:38pm	5.2m
	Sunday	5:27pm	5.0m
Dover	Saturday	2:46pm	5.6m
	Sunday	3:42pm	5.4m
Dungeness	Saturday	2:40pm	6.6m
	Sunday	3:30pm	6.4m
Ramsgate	Saturday	3:16pm	4.2m
	Sunday	4:12pm	4.1m
Sheerness	Saturday	4:27pm	5.0m
	Sunday	5:16pm	4.9m
Whitstable	Saturday	4:30pm	4.7m
	Sunday	5:24pm	4.5m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	5°C	Madrid	6°C
Athens	17°C	New York	4°C
Barcelona	12°C	Paris	5°C
Beijing	12°C	Rome	16°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	31°C
Cape Town	27°C	Tenerife	21°C
Cardiff	5°C	Tokyo	12°C
Gibraltar	12°C	Vancouver	11°C
Hong Kong	21°C	Warsaw	10°C
Las Palmas	19°C	Wellington	19°C

Passengers stranded by Eurostar breakdowns

ABOUT 1,200 Eurostar passengers were delayed in two separate incidents at the weekend, with one train stranded for six hours during a breakdown in the Channel Tunnel.

In the first incident, a train carrying 500 people stopped for two hours on Saturday after it broke down in the tunnel.

And 650 people on a service from Paris on Sunday were left in darkness as their train came to a halt exiting the tunnel on the UK mainland.

Passengers were forced to wait when it was realised that eight of the train's 18 carriages were still inside the tunnel.

The lights had gone out and staff walked through the aisles to provide updates and reassurance. Eurostar said both problems would be "investigated thoroughly" but did not appear to be linked.

The news comes after it was announced that members of the country's two biggest trade unions, RMT and TSSA, had voted for industrial action in protest at the cross-Channel operator's introduction of new rosters.

Renegotiate

About 100 train managers will go on strike between now and Christmas unless the company withdraws the rosters and was prepared to renegotiate, according to union leaders.

RMT general secretary Bob Crow said: "Imposing unfair and unequal rosters is no way to reward staff who did all they could to help Eurostar get back to normal after the recent Channel Tunnel fire."

"We hope the company will get back around the table with us to find a fair solution."

TSSA general secretary Gerry Doherty said: "All our members want is for weekend duties to be shared equally among train managers on both sides of the Channel."

"Nobody wants to see services disrupted, but our members cannot accept unfair rosters that undermine their work-life balance."

Eurostar said it had "contingency plans" in place in the event of any strike.

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Continuing to trial new X-Ray services at The Folkestone NHS Walk-in Centre

The NHS in Eastern and Coastal Kent is pleased to announce that they are continuing to trial new X-Ray services at Folkestone NHS Walk-in Centre, part of the Royal Victoria Hospital in Radnor Park Avenue

The extended X-Ray service is available 6 days a week until Saturday 20th December

**Monday to Friday from 5pm – 8pm
and Saturdays from 9am – 5pm**

Your Doctor can refer you directly to the Walk-in Centre for this service.

It is hoped that this temporary extension will give patients improved access when attending the Walk-in Centre. After the 9 week trial period the number of people using the extended services will be assessed to see if this service should be available for longer hours in the long term.

For further information contact:

communications@eastcoastkent.nhs.uk

yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

CHRIS KNOWLES



Q Tell us something about yourself

A I was born and raised in east Kent. As a youth, I was lucky to meet an avid local film collector when I was nine and became immersed in the world of film historians, movie enthusiasts and buffs.

After graduating from film school at Westminster University I spent 15 years treading hot coals in international feature production on movies like Aliens, Greystoke, A Fish Called Wanda, Pink Floyd's The Wall, A Handful Of Dust and others.

I then started making films as an independent director, screenwriter and offering my services as a script and production adviser, alongside my work as a film researcher in the museum and archive sector.

Q How did you first become involved in the film industry?

A One day my dear mother overheard someone talking about her husband working for a well-known film director and she took the opportunity to introduce not only herself but me.

I visited this producer, he took me under his wing and a month later I was working on a movie called Quest For Fire.

Q What do you think is the most enjoyable or interesting aspect of what you do?

A I love making movies as a writer and director. I also love working out how movies

work and how they are made, not so much technically but in terms of script and how that script is realised on screen.

Q What would you say has been your most memorable or exciting experience in film?

A I have always respected excellence in the workplace, so rubbing shoulders with some of the great technicians and directors in movies was always exciting, challenging and memorable.

In the UK we still have the best crews in the world, not the best-written movies maybe, but certainly the craft level is outstanding.

Working with my mentors was always invigorating – they could teach me more in a week about the realities of the movie world and movie-making than a year at film school.

Q What do you think of the cultural and social life of Shepway?

A It is surprisingly diverse and we should make much more of it. There are so many creative initiatives going on, it is a truly exciting time. I would really like to see a first-rate film festival take off in Shepway – for strong international independent cinema.

Q Tell us more about Scriptwrite

A Scriptwrite is all about the craft and mechanics of story and movies.

The project came about partly as a response to the many scripts that I have read over the

last 30 years, partly as an addition to the many script workshops, gurus and books on offer, and largely because associates kept on urging me to do it.

Scriptwrite provides a comprehensive and progressive route-map that can be employed both as a tool for creative script development and completion, and an analytical platform for assessment, redaction and rewrites.

Whether you are about to write, are in the process of writing, or have completed writing your story or movie script, Scriptwrite can be used to inspire the entry-level aspirant through to the professionally-engaged practitioner.

Q Where can people find out more about you and what you do?

A Come to the Scriptwrite Workshop at Strange Cargo in Folkestone and speak to me either directly or via email or letter.

Visit the website www.scriptwrite.org, phone me on 01303 862 877, or email me on chris@channelwebscene.co.uk. Or stop me in the street and buy me a cappuccino!

Q What do you like to do in your spare time when you're not working?

A I enjoy my family, friends and where we live and the people who live here.

Q Tell me something that people don't tend to know about you.

A There is a young, thin man without a beard trying to get out!

Q & A

The independent film director and producer who runs the Scriptwrite workshop in Folkestone spoke to **James Alexandre** about his career and introducing the next generation to the industry

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Reporter Anna White checks out the latest toys that are set to top the best-sellers list this Christmas. Search 'toys'



Union members in Dover take to the streets to stop lorries in a dispute over jobs at the docks. Search 'strike'



Discover the history of one of the county's most famous cattle markets. Search 'cattle'



Why boats had to be launched sideways at one historic dockyard. Search 'sideways'



A new state-of-the-art café opens for business at the end of one of the county's best-loved piers. Search 'pier'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

yourkenttv.co.uk

Gardeners go wild encouraging nature

BY NICK AMES

MORE than 1,000 people across the county have signed up for the RSPB's Home For Wildlife project – as the first results of this year's survey are revealed.

Some 25,000 gardeners nationwide have signed up to the scheme, which offers free, tailored wildlife-gardening advice to help people transform their homes and gardens into mini-nature reserves.

And the county has proved one of the most enthusiastic embracers of the project, with only four other counties providing a higher number of participants.

The RSPB's Richard Bashford said: "Kent's wildlife is increasingly reliant on our gardens for food, water and shelter, so it's fantastic that people are so committed to making their homes and gardens wildlife-friendly."

"Through Homes For Wildlife, we're trying to reverse the alarming decline of familiar birds such as house sparrows, starlings and song thrushes. Large numbers of these birds make their homes in our gardens."

"The time committed by Kent residents in taking action will help create a better future for them and other wildlife in the not-too-distant future."

Results show participants are carrying out an average of 12 tasks each to help frogs, toads, bats, insects, hedgehogs and birds.

Providing seed mixes, growing flowering nectar-rich plants and planting dense thorny bushes are some of the most popular actions people have taken as part of the Homes For Wildlife project.

Participants also counted birds, bats, bees, butterflies and bugs over the summer.

Across Kent, about 70 per cent counted blackbirds' nests. The snail was the creature most seen across the region, with an average



Picture: RSPB/SUE TRANTER

BOOST: By making our gardens more wildlife-friendly, we can help reverse the decline of birds such as the house sparrow

of 13 per garden, one more than the national average.

Other results reveal that about 80 per cent of gardens surveyed had frogs, around a third had toads, and half had newts. About half of the gardens participating in the region also had bats and hedgehogs.

Kent was the only county in the South East to record the national average of five house sparrows per garden. All other counties in the region lagged behind with an average of three.

Despite house sparrows remaining the most-seen bird in gardens, numbers have reduced by more than two-thirds over 30 years. Research

suggests a lack of insects to feed young is contributing to declines. Homes For Wildlife participants are helping to combat this by encouraging insects back into their gardens.

Mr Bashford added: "We've made a fantastic start, but it's really important that more people get involved. Now is a great time to think longer-term about turning your garden into a haven for wildlife."

"The more people who sign up and take action, the bigger effect we will have. By taking simple wildlife-friendly steps in our gardens, collectively we will make a real difference for many Kent birds and other wildlife."

Don't fall prey to the scammers this Christmas

FIND yourself faced with a wrangle over your rights while shopping this festive season? Then help is at hand.

With the credit crunch set to change our buying habits, consumer support groups say they are ramping up their efforts to ensure we do not end up being ripped off this Christmas by making us all aware of our rights.

And with even some of the biggest retail names bucking under the pressure of an impending recession, shopping with confidence is crucial to reviving our local economies.

Consumer Direct South East, a Government-funded advice organisation, and Kent Trading Standards provide guidance on consumer rights and practical advice for problems with goods and traders.

The Consumer Direct website offers information and guidance on a variety of issues including online shopping, handling credit, avoiding scams and guarantees and contracts.

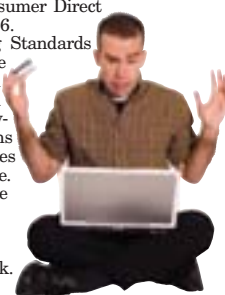
And if you want to only buy from companies who have proved themselves as fair and honest, then Trading Standards in the region has set up the Buy With Confidence scheme which gives access to a free directory of trusted traders.

Only businesses that pass strict tests are accepted on to the scheme.

As well as general advice and guidance on disagreements, Consumer Direct can also advise on making complaints; refer a case to a local Trading Standards service; and explain more about issues such as warranties, refunds and buying on credit. You can phone Consumer Direct on 08454 040506.

Kent Trading Standards offers an advice pack and useful leaflets and a list of frequently-asked questions which provides helpful guidance.

For details, see www.consumerdirect.gov.uk or www.tradingstandards.gov.uk.



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Mountain of salt is ready for our roads

■ BY ED HILL

YOU heard it here first – our roads will be prepared for the traditional snow white-out this winter.

At least that's the brave claim by Kent Highway Services (KHS), which says by harnessing precise forecasting, salt to tackle ice and snow on our roads "can now be laid at the right time, first time".

Which will be music to the ears of commuters who all too often find that the first flurry of snow causes chaos to the main roads in the county, prompting complaints over why preparations were not made in advance.

But this year 20,000 tonnes of salt has been stockpiled and 64 spreading vehicles across seven salting depots – including the new super-depot at Ashford – are ready to go out.

A Kent Highways spokesman said: "Treating the roads is based on detailed information and careful planning. When salting vehicles leave the depot, it's the final stage in a process that starts with watching the weather."

Data is gathered from 14 stations around the county. The information includes road temperature, air temperature and moisture levels. Five of the stations also have cameras to monitor what the roads look like at any given time.

The data is then gathered together by a meteorological company that merges it with a



PREPARED: More than 20,000 tonnes of salt and 64 spreading vehicles are ready to keep roads open in winter

weather forecast dedicated to Kent's roads. The resulting information is issued to KHS three times a day, and this is turned into a Kent road weather forecast, giving details of any salting action as necessary.

The forecast categorises action into green, amber or red. Red alert means temperatures on the road will drop to freezing and the salting crews will usually go out. A green forecast requires no salting action, while amber alerts salting crews action could be necessary and a further update will be issued.

Kim Hills, head of community operations for KHS, said: "People think salting the roads is about rushing out when the first snowflake

falls, but there's a lot of planning involved to make sure we're delivering the service as effectively and efficiently as possible.

"While Kent residents are tucked up in bed, we're out and about laying salt at the right time to make sure Kent's roads are as safe as possible in winter weather."

A spokesman added: "In the event of really bad weather, the crews move into a shift pattern to work around the clock and, for extreme weather, snow-ploughs can be quickly fitted to the front of salting vehicles.

"KHS also maintains salt-bins around the county. These bins are currently being topped up with salt or replaced if damaged."

Family and friends give thanks for a 'wonderful' man

TRIBUTES were paid to former KCC leader Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart during a thanksgiving service at Canterbury Cathedral on Thursday.

Lord Bruce-Lockhart, who stepped down as council leader in 2005, died on August 14 after a long battle with cancer.

Hundreds of friends, family members, former colleagues and politicians gathered for the cathedral service.

Michael Howard, MP for Folkestone and Hythe, said Lord Bruce-Lockhart had a "remarkable" political career.

After the service, Labour MP Ruth Kelly described him as "absolutely wonderful", adding she had a good working relationship with him, in spite of their different political backgrounds. "He wanted to do what was right," she said.

Local government minister John Healey said: "He was a great figure in local government. In many ways he had so much more to offer to the country."

The service was led by the Very Rev Robert Willis, the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, and there were readings by Harriet Creelman, Lord Bruce-Lockhart's niece, and old friend Chris Gosling.

Lord Bruce-Lockhart became a county councillor for Maidstone Rural East in 1989. He led KCC for eight years from 1997, was knighted in 2002, made chairman of the Local Government Association in 2004 and became a life peer in 2006.

In 2007 he was appointed chairman of English Heritage.



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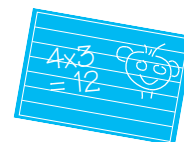
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FROM LITTLE ACORNS... Stella Maris primary school youngsters are ready to plant their saplings in the school grounds

Planting a sapling for every pupil to mark anniversary

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

STAFF and pupils at Stella Maris primary school in Folkestone have played their part in helping the environment by planting 200 trees, one for each pupil.

The event was organised as part of the winter tree-planting season, providing communities with an opportunity to do something positive for their environment and increase biodiversity.

It also marks the start of the 75th anniversary celebrations of the foundation of Stella Maris, which was established in 1934.

Pupils planted the trees in the wildlife and naturalised orchard area of the school grounds. Stella Maris primary is close to Radnor Park and the Pent Stream, meaning that there is good connectivity for wildlife in the area.

The 200 saplings were organised through the White Cliffs Countryside Project in memory of one of its volunteers, Eddie Thomas, a popular local teacher at Folkestone School For Girls who became a regular volunteer with the project when he retired.

Money donated by Mr Thomas's family in

his memory has been put towards promoting conservation projects in schools.

Students learned about the variety of trees in the wildlife area and, as Stella Maris has Healthy School status, found out more about the nutritional value of the fruit and nut species.

Most of the new trees are native species or have been naturalised in Britain for many years, such as sweet chestnut, damson and greengage.

Native trees tend to support many more wildlife species than introduced ones.

Head-teacher Tony Holdsworth said: "In spite of the poor weather, the tree-planting project has been a huge success."

"The children found the experience a great inspiration. They have all remembered what kind of tree they planted and have been thinking about how they will flourish in the years to come."

"We are very lucky to have such beautiful school grounds in the centre of Folkestone and want to preserve them as a haven for wildlife and an inspiration for the children of the future."

BREAK TIME

Mundella's 'satisfactory' Ofsted rating

MUNDELLA primary school's strengths lie in supporting the development and welfare of pupils.

However, greater consistency is needed in teaching and learning, according to an Ofsted report.

The mixed school in Black Bull Road, Folkestone was given a 'satisfactory' rating by the inspection body and priorities were listed as to what it could do to improve.

The progress that had been made already was also recognised.

One parent quoted in the report said: "The head-teacher has introduced many innovations and additions to the school which have both helped and improved the performance of my children."

Upon starting school, children settled quickly, concentrating on their personal and social skills development.

However, such assessments are not always used well to set appropriate tasks to meet their needs, according to the report's author.

Progress through the rest of the school is satisfactory, particularly between years one and two, but students are not making consistently good progress because teaching and learning are too variable across classes.

Pupils behave well and relationships throughout the school are good, including the celebration of the life of former Mundella pupil Walter Tull.

Mr Tull was Britain's first black professional footballer and served with distinction as an officer in the First World War.

Attendance has improved sharply since the last inspection and is now average, due to the pupils' enthusiasm.

A small number of schools which are judged as satisfactory overall but with areas of under-performance will receive a monitoring visit by an Ofsted inspector before their next section five inspection.



LOCAL HERO: Walter Tull was a Mundella pupil

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yourshepwayblogger

Hythe woman Lynda Bryers asks us not to panic and just be a little creative with our gifts

How to enjoy Christmas in spite of the credit crunch

THIS week the Church of England has picked up where Gordon Brown left off and is advocating prudence during the festive season.

While Government ministers scramble around trying to defend the logic of borrowing and spending their way out of the recession, the Church has used the convenient timing of Advent to reassure people that they can still enjoy Christmas with all the trimmings in spite of the credit crunch.

In a YouTube video, Dr Rowan Williams suggests that instead of being miserable and padding out the days before the Christmas holidays by eating chocolate from their Advent calendars, people might use the time to reflect on their current situation and perhaps find spiritual solace in the scriptures.

That all may work for some people, but for others the more orthodox trappings of the festive season – candlelit Christingles, carols around the Christmas tree and oioing and ahing at the primary school Nativity play – only offer temporary diversion from the worry

of an overloaded credit-card statement looming in January and the fear of not being able to provide a new Nintendo wii under the tree for little Jack in a few weeks' time.

Ah, but the Bishop of Reading takes a more practical approach and has published a timely book, *Do Nothing, Christmas is Coming*, offering helpful hints on finding another way of celebrating Christmas without stressing your credit card, the environment, or yourself.

You, like me, may not be a practising Christian, but I still think they might have something here...

If the best bit about Christmas for people is the giving and receiving of gifts to show their love of each other for at least one day of the year – even if they can't manage it the rest of the 365 and will be arguing about who has the TV remote by the time the Queen's speech comes on – a bit of Christmas spirit can still prevail in hard times.

Why not make Auntie Gladys laugh with a handmade Christmas card?

You might not be that artistic, but most people can handle a pair of scissors, some glue and glitter. Get the kids involved and make a happy

Sunday afternoon of cutting and pasting old cards to make new ones. No one can argue against the environmentally-friendly merits of this and it's so much nicer than a bland impersonal e-card or text!

Supermarkets are already offering cheap deals on all the Christmas favourites – puddings, beer and chocolate.

So why not, instead of buying a gift and then giving a bottle of wine as an extra when you're invited to dinner, make the food/drink the gift itself. Wrap the organic Cava in a bow – they'll love it!

Or make a hamper for your grandparents – cover a cardboard box in wrapping paper and fill it with basics and a few goodies they might not buy themselves this year as they are keeping those purse strings in check.

Yes, times are hard, yes you don't have much money, but don't panic. Just be creative – who knows, like Scrooge, you might even find the joy of Christmas. God Bless Us Every One!

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, **Dave Mairs**, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Shepway blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to www.yourshepway.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, Yourshepway, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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'TIS the season to eat, drink and be merry, and here's a great way to get started.

Anchor Real Dairy Cream has teamed up with KOS Media, publishers of this newspaper, to give one lucky reader the chance to win everything they need to make some delicious fruity treats over the festive season.

You'll have all you need for you and your festive little squirts to get cooking, including: a complete baking set for kids, a kid's cook book, a smoothie maker, some great festive jelly moulds, plus some aprons so you and the kids can get as creative as you like with all your favourite fruits.

And as if that wasn't enough, you'll also receive some Anchor Real Dairy

Cream to get everyone into the Christmas spirit.

Created especially for the yuletide season, there are three delicious Limited Edition flavours of Anchor Real Dairy Cream this Christmas, just the thing to cover everyone's taste.

There's Anchor Extra Thick with Brandy Real Dairy Cream, a favourite with dads, Anchor Extra Thick Real Dairy Cream, a luxury treat for all occasions and Anchor Chocolate Flavour Mousse, the perfect way to make fruit

fun for kids over the Christmas period. All three flavours go deliciously well with your favourite seasonal winter fruits and there's never been a better time to get festively fruity now Anchor has launched its 'We Love Festive Little Squirts' campaign bursting with easy to prepare recipes.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and day-time telephone number to Anchor Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is December 12, 2008.

Question: Which flavour of Anchor Real Dairy Cream will be a favourite with dads this Christmas?

- a) Anchor Extra Thick with Brandy Real Dairy Cream
- b) Anchor Extra Thick Real Dairy Cream
- c) Anchor Chocolate Flavour Mousse

For more fruity recipe ideas to try with your festive little squirts see www.anchorstirringmoments.co.uk.

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TALK TIME

WAYNE HODGSON

The Folkestone businessman who runs Red Eagle recruitment agency and Entrepreneur of the Year finalist tells us about how he first started out.



How did you first become involved in the business?

My time with my previous employer came to an end when it was clear my vision and direction for the business differed from the owner. It was then that my wife and I decided to start our business and see if we could implement and manage the policies and procedures we believed were necessary to sustain long term business growth.

What would you say has been your most memorable or exciting experience so far?

The whole process of starting your own business is both memorable and exciting. We had to establish relationships within the banking and accounting industry and work with organisations to ensure our back office systems were functional enabling us to concentrate on developing clients and sales. Over and above that developing our key clients, securing large volume sole agency agreements and winning a number of business awards have all been memorable.

What are your future career goals?

My future career goals are that of all the team at Red Eagle. We all look to continue the success of the business, achieving continual year on year growth whilst maintaining our reputation for quality service and a dedication to operating standards.

What advice would you give to others who want to achieve their own success?

Ensure you know your market place. Don't be afraid to outsource areas of your business you are not confident about, i.e. accounting, finance and payroll, recruitment. Most importantly, you will find a determined approach, hard work and persistence will be behind the success of any entrepreneur.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

When not working I try to spend time with the family and squeeze in a little travel and golf, combined if possible.

YOUR LETTERS

Thanks for keeping the Status Quo

Firstly, on behalf of Dover Town Council, may I congratulate Yourdover for its measured coverage of the story concerning the phoney purporting to be Francis Rossi of Status Quo.

Would that the recent national-media, feeding frenzy had shown similar consideration for facts.

The council deplores the national publicity for this 18-month old story, which was mostly incorrect and without credibility.

Considerable costs have been incurred, in terms of both money and time, for the required verification of all Council decisions/expenditure and usage of the Civic car, to ensure the accuracy of the statement that I now make.

Therefore, to reassure your readership, concerning this matter, I confirm on behalf of the council that:

- a) it has not been duped in any way;
- b) it has authorised no expenditure;
- c) it has had no dealings with the imposter;
- d) it has not been involved in any negotiations with or on behalf of any charlatan;
- e) records confirm that there has been no unauthorised usage of the Mayoral car.

The inaccurate coverage has damaged the reputation both of our town and of the town council.

It is particularly sad that, as the council forges ahead on so many fronts on behalf of Dover, that one person's disaffection has so sabotaged our efforts, and those of our many partners, by taking this non-story to a national tabloid.

Given the seriousness of the situation, the town council is



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considering its options, with initial steps already under way.

Michael Webb
Dover Town Clerk

Don't waste things in the first place

Recycle your world and mine.
Be a recycle Michael or a saving Sheila

Earth's resources must be saved
The world needs reclaim dealer.
Don't waste things in the first place

Plant recycle in your mind
Learn now from our past mistakes

For we can't recycle time.
Cloths that may be rags to you
are used by souls with less
So save your clothes for people
That will wear them as their best.
Paper that is everywhere can do a

mighty job
Save it for recycling
Stop world's tress from being lopped.
Don't waste things in the first place
Plant recycle in your mind
Learn now from our past mistakes
For we can't recycle time.
We take our cars and crush them
their end a new beginning
Now succeed with all our waste
Rebuild the world we live in.
Plastic that is bright and light
don't cut us like old glass
Bin it its reusable
Don't leave it on the grass.
Don't waste things in the first place
Plant recycle in your mind
Learn now from our past mistakes
For we can't recycle time.
Wars when we recycle most we
skim the world to live
Hear the peace word recycle
Actions not to take but give.
It's a sin to waste water, food,
money or our time
Don't waste recycle all things
For waste is our biggest crime

ME Doel
Sellindge

Christmas carnival cancelled this year

It is with regret that there will be no Christmas Carnival this year; this is due to the success of the summer parade, and all efforts are now being focused on this, also we clash this year with another carnival so the court will be attending Hoddesdon and Broxbourne.

With Christmas around the corner our next events are as follows:

On December 14 we will be hosting the first Pensioners Christmas lunch, details to follow shortly for this event.

December 19: best-illuminated



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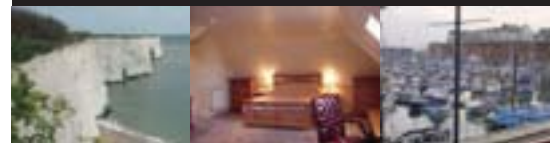
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Aylesham Carnival Association

BNP reaction shows party's true colours

Unsurprisingly, Mr Williams of the odious BNP can only reply with little more than the typical thinly-veiled abuse, smears and evasive tactics of someone who has lost the argument.

Also not mentioned is the clearly embarrassing release of its still tiny membership list; nor the police in Liverpool having to confiscate a potentially racist BNP leaflet being given out there after complaints by 'common sense people'.

As for history, while the UK certainly has a long history of struggle to attain the social and human rights we have now, it has also been violently aggressive in its grab of other people's land and resources.

This was mostly for the benefit of elites rather than the ordinary populace, whether here or abroad.

As regards the internet, who needs to see the vacuous website of a far-right group trying to moderate its message for electoral gain with a few placatory policies, when the press and media, from right to left, including recent coverage, regularly expose their true hard-line ideology?

This borrowed, as it appears to be, from their Nazi forebears' pre-power strategy.

This, I suggest, may be the real reason their more extreme policies don't appear on their website, having been merely shelved, including, most likely, ID cards.

They do a good job of revealing their true views anyway. The above mentioned scurrilous leaflet, for instance, and again recently when one of their leaders publicly issued what appeared to be a thinly-veiled threat to whoever published the members list.

They were also laughably hypocritical when they claimed their human rights had been breached, even though they are the ones who want to get rid of the Act for their own likely repressive ends.

I'm glad Mr Williams says he isn't racist and that he has black friends, but he cannot be surprised when he's tarred with the same brush due to being a member of such a far-right party.

I also point out that his friends cannot actually be members as rule 202 states that only those of a white, North European descent can be.

As Orwell also said: "We are all equal, but some are more equal than others". Odd, that, for a supposedly non-bigoted group.

Finally, with regard to my letters on other subjects, while Mr Williams appears only to wallow in far-right spin, I clearly have better things to do and suspect most people see that I at least try to comment from genuinely informed points of view.

Perhaps rather like Oscar Wilde's "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars".

Ray Duff
Folkestone

Darling reveals dark side to his eyebrows

I've just listened to our Chancellor and think we should rename 'The Eyebrows' to 'Dracula's cousin'.

Talk about sucking the lifeblood of our country and lower-paid wholesale. Not to mention that the high-earners don't get hit until after things have started to get better.

This is not a Budget, it's a farce and it's all at the poor end who are paying for it again.

Derek Packham
Dover

There is no need to cull the grey squirrel

Grey squirrels are beautiful, intelligent and highly-adaptable animals, yet there appears to be an intolerance – even a hatred – of them by some people. Demands for their death come largely from just two sources: those with vested interests, and so-called conservationists who whimsically favour one animal over another.

It is not the fault of grey squirrels they were brought to this country 130 years ago and, despite everything, have thrived. To kill such a hardy species flies in the face of Darwinism would be the killing of the fittest.

To find out more about the hidden motives behind wildlife culls can order a free copy of *With Extreme Prejudice: the culling of British wildlife* by calling 01732 364546 or emailing info@animalaid.co.uk.

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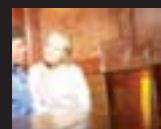
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CHRISTMAS CHEER: The streets of Rochester will come alive as the town celebrates the festive period with entertainment from Dickensian times

A Dickens of a Christmas

Town to celebrate author during festive period

JOURNEY back in time and see the festive season through the eyes of a great writer with Rochester's Dickensian Christmas.

This weekend the town will be transporting visitors back to the 1800s for a traditional celebration of Christmas. Rochester will be alive with family entertainment and festivity from Dickens's day, proving the perfect antidote to modern-day stresses and worries.

The streets that Dickens explored as a boy will be populated with entertainers and musicians. Visitors will also have the chance to join in with favourite Christmas carols and enjoy a guaranteed snowfall.

The festival begins on Friday (December 5) with the Grand Mistletoe Ball at the Corn Exchange.

A three-course meal will be followed by music from The Donn Barcott Band. Tickets cost £24; to book, phone 01795 843317.

On Saturday, pick up some bargain Christmas gifts from Bespoke 2008 in The Prince's Hall at the Corn Exchange. Running from 10.30am to 4.30pm, the free event showcases the best of Medway's talented designers and makers.

Father Christmas will be in residence at Rochester Castle Gardens from 11am to 4pm both days, while at 3pm on Saturday Dickens's great-



ROCHESTER'S DICKENSIAN CHRISTMAS

Saturday and Sunday, December 6-7
Various venues in Rochester

great-grandson Gerald will perform his acclaimed one-man interpretation of A Christmas Carol at The Queens Hall.

Ashley Davis will host the sumptuous Bull Dinner at 7.30pm at the Royal Victoria and Bull Hotel and at the same time the Christmas Concert With A Twist will be held at St Margaret's Church with organist Gavin Williams and friends.

The fun continues on Sunday with John Bromley-Davenport QC's adaptation of A Christmas Carol in the cathedral nave at 1pm.

Experience some traditional entertainment at 2pm when The Fabulous FezHeads, England's premier sand dance vaudevilian illusionists, will baffle and amuse the audience at The Queens Hall.

On both days The Seven Poor Travellers' Procession will set off from the Royal Victoria and Bull Hotel at 11am to the Six Poor Travellers' House, in time for the carving of the Christmas turkey. At noon, Mayor of Medway Cllr David Carr will lead a procession of Dickens characters and other participants from the junction of High Street and Almon Place to Rochester Castle Gardens.

The candlelit parade sets out from the same spot at 4.45pm, followed by an open-air carol concert overlooking Rochester Cathedral at 5pm. The BAE Systems Brass Band will lead a selection of carols, which will be enhancing by a guaranteed snowfall.

Extra entertainment will be taking place at Rochester Castle Gardens both days, including a children's traditional funfair and a Christmas craft fair and there will be services taking place at the cathedral throughout the weekend. With a wealth of street entertainment and activities at other venues, it should be a spectacular start to the festive season.

A full programme can be downloaded at www.medway.gov.uk/dickensianchristmas, or phone Medway Visitor Information Centre on 01634 843666 for more details.



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SALLY MORGAN

Wednesday December 10
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone

SEE one of the UK's top mediums in action when Sally Morgan visits Shepway next week.

The psychic to the stars claims that she has always had the ability to connect with the spirit world, having her first psychic experience when she was just nine months old.

She went on to become a professional medium and read for a number of celebrities, from film stars to soap actors. Some of the famous people who have sought her services include George Michael, Uma Thurman, Mel B of the Spice Girls and the late Princess Diana.

She is also in demand as a columnist, writing for OK!, Now, Star and Saturday Express magazines, as well as launching her own range of jewellery with Gems TV.

Recently, viewers have seen her reading for surprise celebrities on her own ITV show Sally Morgan: Star Psychic.

An Audience With Sally Morgan should be



a fascinating evening as she talks about her work with celebrities and her life as one of the world's top mediums.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £18.50. To book, phone the box office on 0844 847 1776, or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.

THE FRATELLIS

Wednesday, December 10
Winter Gardens, Margate

SCOTTISH whirlwinds The Fratellis have conquered the music world and are back on the road again.

Formed in 2005, the trio soon became a musical sensation and sold more than a million copies of their debut album in the UK alone. Produced by Tony Hoffer, who has worked with Beck and Air, Costello Music put The Fratellis on the map and they have continued to expand on their early success.

Their biggest achievement so far was winning the Best British Breakthrough Award at last year's Brit Awards. It was voted for by listeners of Radio 1, so the band knew it was really making an impact with the people who mattered. They were also named 'best new band in Britain' by the NME.

With hits such as Creepin' Up The Backstairs, Whistle For The Choir and the anthem Chelsea Dagger, the Glaswegians have brought a little glam rock and feel-good sound back to the contemporary pop scene.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £20. To book, phone the box office on 01843 292795/296111, or alternatively you can visit www.margatewintergardens.co.uk.



Picture: ANDREW COTTERILL



FATHER CHRISTMAS

Various dates in December
Wildwood, near Herne Bay

DURING his busy Christmas travels, Santa Claus will be stopping off to deliver some festive cheer to a popular wildlife discovery park.

He will be visiting Wildwood from 2pm to 4pm this weekend and again on Saturday and Sunday, December 13-14, 20-21, and from 4pm to 6pm on Monday, December 15, to Wednesday, December 17.

Children will be able to meet Father Christmas in his specially-designed grotto

near the shop, and visitors will also meet a herd of fallow and red deer.

The cost is £2 per child and places should be booked in advance on 01227 712111, as Father Christmas is likely to be very busy.

All the money raised by the event will be used to support the conservation of scarce British species such as water voles, red squirrels and dormice.

Access to Father Christmas at weekends is only permitted if membership or entrance to the park has been paid.

This does not apply to weekday slots, as only the shop will be open and access to the park restricted. For more information, go online at www.wildwoodtrust.org.

SHEPWAY LEISURE

Hear talented quartet perform at The Grand

POPULAR Medway jazz group The Roger Lewin Quartet will be performing in Folkestone tomorrow night.

The quartet will be at The Grand in The Leas as part of the weekly jazz club held in Keppels Music Room.

The music starts at 8.30pm and admission costs £4.

For more information about the jazz club and other upcoming events at the hotel, you can visit the website at www.grand-uk.com.

Take home a copy of this dramatic documentary

THE history of Folkestone's landmark venue, the Leas Cliff Hall, is the subject of a new documentary.

The Leas Cliff Hall - A History is directed by Robin Hillier and explores everything from the first opening of its doors in 1927 to the present day.

The hall's official historians, Ken and June Paine, have worked hard over the years to preserve the building's history and educate younger generations about its valuable role in Folkestone life.

Priced at £15, it is available from the box office. Phone 01303 228600.

Band aim to entertain you with great blues

ANYONE in the mood for blues will be in for a treat when Sick Note Blues perform this week.

The four-piece band cover classic blues tracks by a range of great artists, from Jimmy Reed to Jimi Hendrix.

To find out more about them, see www.sicknotebluesband.co.uk.

See them play live at The Victoria Hotel in Risborough Lane, Cheriton, on Friday. For more information about the venue, phone the pub on 01303 277347.

Pump up all the rock action at reunion gig

ROCK band Pump Action will be playing a one-off reunion gig in Folkestone this weekend.

They disbanded in 2005 but will be getting back together to rock at The Frenchman in Christchurch Road on Saturday. To find out more about the band, see www.pumpaction.org.uk.

The gig starts at 9pm and admission is free. For more details about the venue, phone the pub on 01303 259815.

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BODY OF LIES (15)



A dramatic thriller starring Leonardo DiCaprio as a CIA agent who has tracked a suspected terrorist in Jordan. Now he must trust those he feels will deceive him to get the job done. Also starring Russell Crowe and directed by Ridley Scott, Body Of Lies is a tense thriller.

CHOKE (18)



From maverick author Chuck Palahniuk (Fight Club) and new writer-director Clark Gregg comes the subversively comedic tale of Victor Mancini, con artist, sex addict, colonial village re-enactor, angst-filled son, serial restaurant choker – and unsuspecting romantic anti-hero for our unsettling times.

Angelina's change of heart

■ BY JULIA HUNT
AND KATE WHITING

ANGELINA Jolie is one of the most distinguished actresses of her generation.

She embodies the grace and beauty of the old-style Hollywood belles as well as being an earth mother to her six children and devoted partner of actor Brad Pitt.

The 33-year-old seems to play each role – in life and on the big screen – with deft aplomb, ensuring that what is private remains private, but giving her all to each character she plays.

She becomes so embroiled in each performance, in fact, that when she first read the script for her latest role, as single mother Christine Collins in Changeling, she turned it down.

Upsetting

"When I read the script, I could not put it down and then I said 'No'. Immediately. I did not want to go near this project because it was too upsetting.

"But then I couldn't stop talking about her," Angelina, elegant in grey, explains.

"I found myself sitting with people and wanting them to know about this extraordinary woman that you wouldn't believe what happened to her and what these people did to her."

Changeling, the latest work from legendary actor-turned-director Clint Eastwood, tells the story of Christine, whose son Walter disappears without a trace in 1928 Los Angeles.

Five months later, a child who claims to be her son is returned by police, who are keen to win credit for a job well done.

Dazzled by flashbulbs and overwhelmed by reporters, Christine agrees to take the boy home, even



RETHINK: Angelina Jolie first turned down the role of Christine Collins in Changeling

though she knows it is not her son.

Her campaign to find the real Walter continues, but in Prohibition-era LA, women don't stand up to the system and she is sent to a mental institution.

Christine's long battle against the corrupt system eventually changed the course of the city's history.

"I found it very inspiring in the end," Angelina continues.

"It became a story about democracy in action, a story about justice, about suffering a great loss

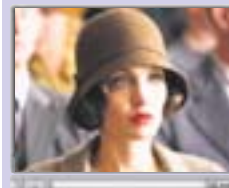
and fighting through it and making a change for the future, for other people and questioning government and the police.

"Christine had to walk a very fine line and then, when she did speak out, they locked her in an institution, so she had this real struggle to try to behave with these corrupt people."

Angelina gave birth to twins in July this year, and they are apparently asleep in her room at London's Claridge's when we

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meet. Knox and Vivienne are the latest additions to her and Brad's brood but were still just a glint in their mother's eye while she was filming.

The actress says that her other children – Maddox, seven, Pax, four, Zahara, two – who were all adopted – and two-year-old Shiloh, her first child with Brad, were a comfort to her during the harrowing shoot.

"I had my kids with me as much as possible at lunch and after doing a day at work I would run home," she reveals.

"I just wanted to be silly. It was so emotional that I found myself being really goofy. I was so happy that I knew where my kids were and they were OK."

For an actress at the top of her game, it seems unusual, then, that Angelina plans to bow out of the business. But her family clearly comes first.

"I'm not making some big retirement announcement, but I have a big family and I have a lot of responsibility at home.

"Maybe I'll make a film once a year and then maybe once every two years, and then maybe eventually I'll stop."



CHANGELING
Certificate 15

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Mon – Thur – 6.20pm

► Incendary 15

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WORTHING 27 Feb – 3 days

Situated between the beautiful South Downs & 5 miles of award winning coastline. The town offers superb theatres, friendly restaurants & fabulous shopping. Oscar Wilde found it such a 'charming town' & wrote 'The Importance of Being Earnest' whilst staying here. Close by is the outstanding countryside of East & West Sussex. Includes 3* Chatsworth Hotel (HB) & 1 full day excursion.

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JANUARY

Date	Destination	Price (Adult pp)*
Sat 3	London January Sales	£10
Wed 7	Bluewater or Lakeside	£10
Sat 10	Lille Sales – by Tunnel	£19
Sat 10	London Boat Show 55th Anniversary New	£27
Sat 10	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Sun 11	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Wed 14	London Museums	£15
Sat 17	Cirque Du Soleil "Quidam"	£85
Sat 17	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Sun 18	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Sun 18	Bruges or Sluis – by Tunnel	£30
Wed 21	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Thu 22	The Musical Museum With Lunch New	£29
Sat 24	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Sun 25	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Sun 25	London Eye, Lunch & River Cruise	£59
Mon 26	Monday Special – Ypres & St Flora – by Tunnel	£20
Tue 27	Pussycat Dolls At The O2 Arena	£59
Wed 28	Mystery Day With Lunch	£20
Thu 29	London & Royal Opera House Tour New	£30
Sat 31	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39

FEBRUARY

Date	Destination	Price (Adult pp)*
Sun 1	Holiday On Ice Brighton "Mystery"	£39
Thu 5	Greenwich Maritime Museum New	£15
Sat 7	London Showtime	fr £54
Mon 9	Monday Special – Ostend & St Flora – by Tunnel	£20
Wed 11	Lunch At Moulin Snick, St Omer – by Tunnel	£40
Thu 12	Raf Museum London New	£15
Sat 14	Valentines Love Is In The Air – London Eye & Chocolates	£39
Sun 15	London Eye, Lunch & River Cruise	£59
Tue 17	London Zoo	£29
Wed 18	Kew Gardens Tropical Plants 250th Anniversary	£30
Thu 19	Boulogne & Hypermarket – by Tunnel	£25
Sat 21	Disneyland® Resort Paris – by Tunnel	£65
Sat 21	Mountbatten Festival Of Music	£53
Sun 22	Bruges or Sluis – by Tunnel	£30
Tue 24	Imperial War Museum & Ian Fleming Exhibition (James Bond)	£25
Wed 25	Sound Of Music	£49
Thu 26	Mystery Day	£15
Sat 28	Lakeside or Romford Market	£17

* Call for child & senior prices

MARCH

Date	Destination	Price (Adult pp)*
Mon 2	Monday Special – Ghent – by Tunnel	£20
Wed 4	National Gallery & Picasso Exhibition New	£29
Fri 6	Dirty Dancing	£59
Sat 7	The Secret World Of Bletchley Park New	£29
Sun 8	Crufts Dog Show	£40
Tue 10	Paris In Springtime – by Tunnel	£40
Wed 11	Lunch At Moulin Snick, St Omer – by Tunnel	£40
Thu 12	Milestones Living History Museum New	£25
Sun 15	Bruges or Sluis – by Tunnel	£30
Tue 17	Windsor Lunch Cruise New	£35
Wed 18	Oliver New Show	£74
Thu 19	Wisley Gardens At Springtime	£25
Sat 21	London Showtime	fr £54
Sat 21	Hampton Court Floramania New	£30
Sun 22	London Eye, Lunch & River Cruise Mothers Day	£59
Tue 24	Arras – by Tunnel	£25
Wed 25	Kew Gardens At Springtime 250th Anniversary	£30
Thu 26	Ideal Home Show	£30
Sat 28	Disney Live – Mickey's Magic Show New	£39
Sat 28	Ideal Home Show	£30
Sun 29	Ideal Home Show	£30
Sun 29	Bruges or Sluis – by Tunnel	£30
Tue 31	Thames Lunch Cruise & London New	£40

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price £12**MATALAN**Small reindeer
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Vibe Envy girls BMX bikes are £69.99 down from £139.99 and boys X-rated Hustle BMX is £109.99 from £169.99.

For more information or to reserve a bike, see www.halfords.com, or visit the store at West Park Farm, Folkestone.

Wrap up warm with a big saving on gowns

WRAP up on those cold winter nights with dressing gowns from La Senza.

The Fremlin Walk store in Maidstone is offering a range of designs with prices starting at £18. Plain hooded robes can be picked up for £18, or go for a full-length dressing gown at £30.

For those special occasions, a black-glitter knit cardigan is £25 and for the festive season a reindeer-design shawl short robe is £18.

To see the selection on offer, you can visit www.lasenza.co.uk.

Stun in this startingly scarlet party outfit

NEW Look is offering girls the perfect outfits to look good this Christmas.

One that will make you turn heads is the red georgette prom-dress priced at just £25. Team this with red satin bow-stilettoes for £15, reduced from £25, a faceted rectangle ring for £4 and a faceted disco bangle for £4.

See www.newlook.co.uk, or visit the store in Sandgate Road, Folkestone.

Buy two decorations and get the third free

MARKS and Spencer is offering three-for-the-price-of-two on mix-and-match Christmas decorations.

Clear snowflake lights, angel LED lights and hanging diamond lights are all priced at £2.80.

Red-and-white traditional spruce wreaths are £12, silver-sequin garlands are £12, bronze-sequin wreaths are £12 and gold-pine core wreaths are £7.60.

To see the selection of decorations, see www.marksandspencer.com, or visit your nearest store in Biggin Street, Dover.

Big is beautiful, as the new party range shows

HEAD down to Evans and check out the new partywear selection.

Black sleeveless prom dresses are £60, grey tie-dye print dresses are £55 and black sleeveless maxi dresses are £50.

Shoppers can pick up a brown leopard-print boob-tube for £25, while a sequin-trim crotch bolero is now £25, down from £35.

To see the selection of dresses, shoes, tops and trousers, head down to your nearest store, or visit www.evans.co.uk.

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YOUR TV REVIEW

DAILY SHOW WITH JON STEWART
More 4, 8.30pm, weeknights
HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU
BBC One, 9pm, Friday

■ BY TOM BETTS

AS the presidency of George W Bush enters its final days, I think it's fair to say that there won't be many who mourn the end of his time in office too much.

Some are already calling the Texan 'the worst president ever', but for comedians, satirists and impressionists everywhere, the final decline of Dubya will prove a real loss.

For Jon Stewart, current king of the American TV schedules, it will be a sad day indeed.

The golden boy of liberal America has long since overtaken the likes of Letterman and Leno in his lampooning of the president.

Meanwhile, as the man revered by so many for sticking it to Dubya, he's even scored a role hosting Oscars night, and the keys to a million educated female hearts into the bargain.

The Daily Show has now been on our screens for some considerable time, too, not that you would know it thanks to criminal under-promotion.

More 4 bagged it up and stuck it on for us all to wonder at, but the show faces a big challenge with the impending arrival of Barack Obama in the Oval Office.

It could be seen as party-pooping if the jokes start flying at the expense of the man many regard as the chosen one, especially as, being the first black president, he looks set to enjoy a post-election honeymoon period most politicians would kill for.

In a way, Stewart has much in common with the team of Have I Got



VOTE-WINNER: More 4's The Daily Show with Jon Stewart is one of television's hidden gems

News For You, back on BBC One for series number 36. In these times of British voter apathy and low turnout, the likes of Ian Hislop and Paul Merton perhaps form as effective an opposition as the shadow cabinet, for half an hour a week at least.

But while HIGNFY is still a mainstay of the schedules – and deservedly so – is it not about time they found a regular presenter?

With Boris Johnson now in what passes for serious mode, he won't be back for a guest host slot and for every good host, like Alexander Armstrong, there's an embarrassing turn by Anne Widdecombe or Joan Collins.

Not that any of this has blunted the tongues of Ian Hislop or Paul Merton, who remain as sharp as they have ever been.

Politics – it's the new rock'n'roll. Haven't you heard?

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

A PASSION packed love affair gives you a sexy glow that makes friends, family and fellow workers sit up and take notice. Nothing puts a spring in your step like love. An unexpected expense could force you to cancel arrangements, but you won't let it get you down for long.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

A BURNING desire to travel may prompt you to book a trip. If you're single, you're sure to find romance on this journey. You could be drawn to someone who is much older or younger than you. This age difference seems to enhance your relationship, not detract from it.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

YOUR job puts you in touch with some highly creative people. Being around writers, painters, or actors may inspire you to begin an art project. Your imagination is your most precious treasure. If you stick to this path, you might even be able to sell your work for a handsome profit.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

YOU could get some good news regarding a female friend or relative. A fun night on the town will let you forget all of the frustrations that have been building for the past few weeks. An official from a humanitarian organisation may offer to write you a recommendation.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

AN old friendship could blossom into new romance with very little encouragement. You're not sure why you've developed such a strong desire for the person in question. Perhaps you're getting tired of the people you usually fall for and fancy something a little different.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

MONEY from an inheritance or legal settlement gives you a chance to make home improvements. If you don't own a home, think about buying one. Although you hate being tied down it's usually a good idea to have a secure base. A close friend or partner could lose their job.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOU yearn to go on an overseas journey with your lover, or in search of a lover. Exotic surroundings will fan the flames of your mutual passion. Don't impose your family's values on your beloved. Just because you were raised to think a certain way doesn't mean it's right.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

NORMALLY you don't care much about your personal presentation or what you wear, but this week you'll want to make a good impression on a potential employer. If you look the part of a professional, you'll be more likely to land a well paid position.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

CAREER concerns put you in the spotlight, which is exactly where you like to be. Being offered a plum position is proof your boss is impressed with your talent. It may be necessary to train with someone older as a means to learn the business from the ground up.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

Someone close gives you the drive to go back to school. Learning a foreign language or taking up new technological skills will be stimulating and frustrating. Stick with it, all good things take time and perseverance. A legal decision could come as an utter surprise.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

HOME is where the heart is. Entertaining friends and family brings out the best in you. You're the type of host who is able to let go and have a good time after your guests arrive. That's probably why your parties are so successful. Resist the urge to tell a colleague what you really think.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

THIS is a great time for learning and studying. If you want to boost your qualification apply for a place on a training course now, while the stars are behind you. Complicated technology has a nasty way of breaking down just when you need it most. Be sure to back up your files.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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During the cruise, relax and watch the world go by, enjoy great food and entertainment, and venture ashore at the numerous ports of call. You can also choose from a comprehensive selection of optional shore excursions taking-in: **Portofino, Pompeii, Athens, Ancient Ephesus, Mount Etna** and more.

At the end of the cruise we disembark after breakfast in Marseilles and take the TGV to Lille or Paris where we join the Eurostar to St Pancras, London, arriving early-to-mid evening.

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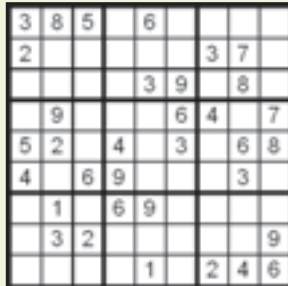
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No65

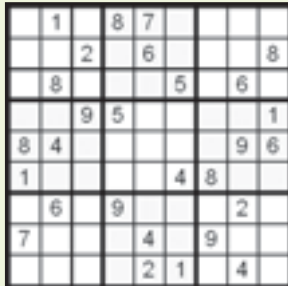
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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

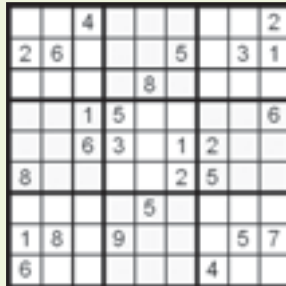
EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC CLUES

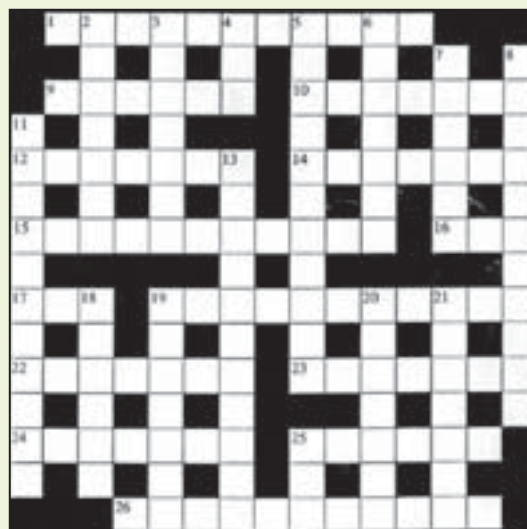
ACROSS

- 1 Prudish tract ladies removed (6-5)
- 9 Trip up giving a shout of pain when it has not been cultivated (6)
- 10 Eat another loaf or scone (7)
- 12 Get back to put the lid on again (7)
- 14 Resort to drugs singularly and be ruined (2,2,3)
- 15 Bar-room dart damaged cap (11)
- 16 Service long way back (1,1,1)
- 17 Title of man in middle of vice squad (3)
- 19 Arrangement by priest and choir before written records (11)
- 22 King entered vessel put in order (5,2)
- 23 Intellect prepared having fixed attitude (7)
- 24 Alan's replacing silver put into pasta! (7)
- 25 Partly crazy, got ecstatic with cell (6)
- 26 Founding charitable organisation (11)

DOWN

- 2 Melted tarmac runs under vehicle (7)
- 3 Matters been deposited by rivers (7)
- 4 Pull westwards (3)
- 5 Eye defect, one brand (11)
- 6 Previous one with lieutenant Edward had been placed in a position of respect (7)
- 7 Jay ruined spare porcelain (6)
- 8 Fierce cat, it destroyed document (11)
- 11 Urgent summons to action on the clarion? (7-4)
- 13 Tree from India? (6,5)
- 18 Feeling swell when at sea? (6)
- 19 Penny put a cloth on model (7)
- 20 Drunk performing inside before the end of the day (7)
- 21 Father leaves French city with German fellow to get Italian dish (7)
- 25 Fuzz, it covers spot (3)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Compatible (4-7)
- 9 Seized (6)
- 10 Flickering (7)
- 12 Aperture (7)
- 14 Racing (7)
- 15 Went ahead of one's turn (5-6)
- 16 Yea (3)
- 17 Ovum (3)
- 19 Youngster fond of pop-music (5-6)
- 22 Phoenix's state (7)
- 23 Extremely reckless (7)
- 24 Old shoe fastening (7)
- 25 Smooth stone (6)
- 26 January 1st (3,5,3)

DOWN

- 2 Elusive (7)
- 3 Brown coal (7)
- 4 Astern (3)
- 5 Green pigment of plants (11)
- 6 Decorated with white fur (7)
- 7 Confirm the truth (6)
- 8 With a strong desire to act (5-6)
- 11 Capable of being overcome (11)
- 13 Luxuriantly (11)
- 18 Merrymaking (6)
- 19 Metrical foot (7)
- 20 Passenger-carrier (7)
- 21 Kneecap (7)
- 25 Vegetable (3)

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No64

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC SOLUTION No64

ACROSS: 1 Jingoistic 6 Scow 9 Comet 10 Calm 11 Saki 13 Ladies-in-waiting 14 Radiance 16 Advice 18 Floppy 19 Shoulder 22 Religious orders 24 Lobe 25 Limb 26 Exist 27 Gaga 28 Interstate. **DOWN:** 1 Jocular 2 Nomad 3 On the rampage 4 Succinct 5 In-laws 7 Clarified 8 Wrinkle 12 Hindquarters 15 Doodlebug 17 Chasuble 18 Foreleg 20 Rosette 21 Potion 23 Eliza.

QUICK SOLUTION No65

ACROSS: 1 Well-matched 9 Caught 10 Lament 12 Office 14 Running 15 Trochee 20 Omnibus 21 Peltia 25 Pea. **DOWN:** 2 Conquerable 13 Exuberantly 18 Gaily 19 Ermined 7 Verily 8 Stage-struck 11 Evasive 3 Lignite 4 Art 5 Chlorophyll 6 Pebble 26 New Year's Day 29 Latchet 25 Peltia 27 Arizona 23 Luratic 24 Latchet 25 Queen-jumped 16 Yes 17 Egg 19 Teeny-bop 18 Lament 12 Office 14 Running 15 Trochee 20 Omnibus 21 Peltia 25 Pea.

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

yourmusic

Billy: our very own reluctant cult hero

BY SIMON ROBINSON

CULT rocker Billy Childish is my hero – and he should be yours, too.

Here are five reasons you should cancel all plans you may have for this Friday and take in his performance with The Musicians Of The British Empire at The Farmhouse in Canterbury instead:

1. The Chatham-born singer/artist/poet/filmmaker goes under the stage name of Wild Billy Childish, an effortlessly cool pseudonym.

If you or I attempted to adopt such a stage name, it would come across as juvenile, pretentious, or, worse-case scenario, both juvenile and pretentious. Billy, on the other hand, gets away with it.

2. Billy's gig wardrobe consists of military uniform seemingly lifted straight off the set of classic 60s war film Zulu.

Fellow band members Wolf and Julie also get in on the act, playing along with the Rourke's Drift dress-up before heading on to the stage.

Matching band outfits are nothing new but are often simply adopted as part of a cheap marketing gimmick – think the slick suits sported by The Hives, for instance – but with The Musicians Of The British Empire, their get-up seems entirely fitting.

3. Musicians inspired by Billy Childish include late Nirvana frontman and grunge godfather Kurt Cobain, pop royalty Kylie Minogue and Jack and Meg White of The White Stripes fame, to name but a few. Here's your chance to see what these industry greats saw.

4. The music is raw, energetic and – rather importantly – very good. The stripped-down garage rock sound is timeless. Simple riffs and killer hooks provide the backdrop for Billy's no-



ICONIC: Nurse Julie and Wolf join Wild Billy Childish in Rourke's Drift dress-up as The Musicians Of The British Empire

nonsense lyrics. Add the band's on-stage chemistry into the equation and you have a winner.

5. Billy does not care what you think of him. Nothing cements a man's status as cult hero more than his unequivocal desire to avoid such a tag. Irony, don't you think?

The Farmhouse's Matt Gough said he was looking forward to Friday, commenting: "This is it."

"Artist, poet, punk-rocker Billy Childish is hitting Canterbury town for a rare gig to celebrate the release of latest album Thatcher's Children with his stripped-down band of Nurse Julie and Wolf – The Musicians Of The British

Empire. The most prolific artist, poet and songwriter of his generation, and the shining jewel in Kent's cultural crown, this is not one to miss.

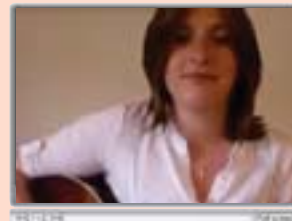
"This is the gig promised following The Musicians of The British Empire's unfortunate decision they had to make to pull out of Lounge On The Farm 2008."

Support on the night comes from one of the Medway Delta's garage bands, hand-picked by Billy himself – The Armitage Shanks.

Entry costs £10. Doors 8pm to 2am.

To buy tickets, visit www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk/tickets_billychildish.htm.

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Kayley performs the title track from her debut album Chasing Dreams



Hard-rock band Tortilla Army perform and talk on The Ether



The Kent chart

1. Steve Furlong - To fall with you (from Birchington)
2. D-FiNITIVE - Space (from Tenterden)
3. Kayley Weller - Tonight is going to be our night (from Deal)
4. Ron Bowdery - The Ghostship in sea mist (from New Eltham)
5. Shotgun Junky - Destiny (Maidstone)



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WOMEN seeking men

LOVELY SUSIE
Sensitive, shy, caring lady, 20, loves life, sunsets, beaches, country walks, romantic meals, cinema, WILTM handsome gent to find love with. Box 445323

SINGLE DAD WANTED
Single mum, 23, nice and curvy, 5ft6, blonde/blue, likes shopping, cinema, animals, WILTM honest and trustworthy male, 28-38, Box 446039

I LOVE FOOTBALL
Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, loves football, going out and staying in, looking for like-minded male to be my soulmate. Box 446494

MAYBE MORE
Seeking fun, friendship, maybe more. WILTM fun man 25-30, 1m female, 26, brown hair/eyes, average build. Box 445822

SNUGGLE UP
Tall, attractive, good-hearted African female, 28, enjoys films, good food and cuddles, wilm white male for friendship/romance. Box 441654

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CUDDLY FEMALE

32, 5ft6, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh, and WILTM nice, kind gent. Box 394902

ATTENTION! TALL WHITE GUY REQUIRED

Pretty black female, 32, tall, loves watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male, 34-77, for LTR. Chatham. Box 437778

FUN-LOVING FEMALE

Attractive, 31, 5'4", 12" size lady with blonde highlights, tactile, wilm intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Turbridge Wells. Box 308734

LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual. Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LOVE

37yr old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a caring, loving, honest and trusting male to be my someone special. Box 446552

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Good looking woman, 37, 5ft2, brown hair/eyes, 2 kids. Looking for new friends, and hopefully someone special. Box 446039

AN AFRICAN DIAMOND

38yr old African girl, likes cooking, going out, watching films and dancing, seeking a loving and caring boy for companionship and more. Box 446676

DON'T LET ME DOWN

Pretty black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684

FROM ME TO YOU

Tall leggy brunette, 38, recently bereaved, enjoys meals out or nights in, dry white wine, a good movie & cuddles, seeking a male for companionship. Box 887404

DON'T PASS ME BY

Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 887983

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, waking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901695

BLONDE AMBITION

Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mum, 38, 5'6", likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614

ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENCOURAGED!

Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking nice male for potential exciting relationship. Box 446724

ANIMAL LOVER?

Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa, looking for kind, caring, loyal male. Box 431557

FAIRY TALE ENDING

Good-looking slim blonde, 42, tired of kissing frogs, seeking an intelligent, solvent professional male to be my prince. Box 446521

WHITE ROSES

Very attractive female, 42, slim, green eyes, high cheek bones, wicked SOH! Loves to make people laugh, seeking intelligent, well-mannered, kind man. Box 446543

BORN TO MAKE YOU HAPPY

Caring lovely lady, 42, genuine, short brown hair, lacks confidence, seeking loyal, genuine person, someone special to put the spark back into my life. Box 885761

YOU NEVER KNOW

Kind, loving, caring mum, 43, 5ft5, round but cuddly! Just looking for someone to share my life with...how about you? Box 446457

EVERLASTING LOVE

Beautiful black female, 46, WILTM a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 45-60, 5ft10+, pref a bit sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Turbridge Wells. Box 445407

ETERNALLY YOUNG

Enthusiastic woman, likes most things in life, country walks, films, cinema, cooking, 1m 48, 5ft2, medium build. WILTM genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 446535

WE'LL SEE

Blonde hair/blue eyes, 5ft5, slim build, looking for friendship, maybe more. I'm a nice woman, 47, seeking good male, for friendship, possibly more. Box 445932

SANDY SEES DANNY

Slim, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out etc, GSOH, seeking trust-worthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 443466

MAKE ME LAUGH, MAKE ME YOURS

Single 47yr old lovely female, 5ft5, slim build, blonde hair, blue-green eyes, seeking male for potential LTR, must have GSOH! Box 885288

ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833

JUST IMAGINE

Fat, friendly, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things. WILTM genuine male, to see what we can do. Box 893562

WHERE R U?

Cherish, honest, popular blonde, 50yrs old, 5ft2, slim build, looking to find an honest, loyal man that can make me happy again. Box 887347

DEEP DEEPER

Genuine, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover. Box 435441

ARE YOU MY MR RIGHT?

Independent, honest, caring and genuine smoker, 53, medium build, GSOH, likes socialising, travelling, WILTM a genuine and honest male for friendship, companionship, maybe a LTR. Box 887442

MISS JULIE

Bubbly blonde, 44, stupid and like having a laugh, good company, friendship, would like to meet new friends for hopeful love... Box 886162

NICE TO MEET YOU

Single mum, 40, single mum, looking to meet a single dad, single dads welcome, for friendship and more. I like motorbikes, wildlife and the beach. Box 446679

COME ON OVER

Divorced female, 40, likes fishing, swimming, walking and eating out, WILTM young man, for friendship and more. Box 446097

TOO MUCH TO ASK?

Genuine female, 41, 5'3", brunette, brown eyes, medium build, enjoys meals out, music etc, seeks male, 38-42, for romance. Box 155275

THE HOME LIFE

Happy, caring female, homely, tactile and honest. 1m Black African, 41, 5ft2, medium build, and would like LTR with the right person. Box 446024

YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL

Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, wilm a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102

DEAL OR NO DEAL? (IN DEAL)

Deal-based lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5ft10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384

COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800

HERE WE ARE

Easygoing female, 45, self-employed hairdresser, likes theatre, restaurants, socialising, sofa cuddles, seeking loyal, loving, caring male for good times and more. Box 444572

MAKE ME LAUGH

Fun extrovert person, 45, likes cinema, going out, meals, socialising, 5ft7, dark brown hair/eyes, curvy, seeking nice guy to start off as friends. Box 442905

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Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, wilm a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102

LOVING & HAPPY-GO-LUCKY

Jovial, caring female, 51, 5'3", brown hair, hazel eyes, own business, wilm nice, tall, good looking gent for laughter, life and love. Box 926614

NOTHING VENTURED...

New to this, I'm a 53yr old woman, seeking loving, tactile man. I enjoy walks, countryside, having fun, nights in and out. Box 446282

SEEING THROUGH THE SWAINES

Attractive female, 53, intelligent, kind, funny, non-smoking, WILTM nice, kind, normal male, 50-60, for theatre, laughs and more. Box 446383

ARE YOU MY BOND...

Kind, caring, attractive lady, young 53, 5'7", slim, brown hair/eyes, N/S, GSOH, enjoys walking, reading, travel, socialising, seeking tall, considerate, honest gent for hopeful LTR. Box 446079

SEEKING SOULMATE

Gorgeous slim attractive young-looking female, 54, active, wicked SOH, 5ft5, blue eyes, sociable, loves music, dancing, travelling; seeking warm, sincere man for genuine companionship. Box 446634

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

African lady, 58, likes reading, current affairs and travelling, WILTM an outgoing, fun-loving and honest male to share the rest of my life with. Box 445122

FOR LOVE

Hard-working male, 29, 5ft10, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes going out, cinema and swimming, plays harder! likes going/leaving out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

Man of adventure, 31, enjoys exploring, trying new things, being active, GSOH, good listener, seeking similar female to spend the rest of my life with. Box 446154

LOOKING FOR YOU

Normal down-to-earth guy 5ft9, short hair, brown eyes, medium build, 34, love to meet female any age for outgoing, fun, friendly times and maybe more. Box 446154

LOVING

Outgoing male, 34, loves bowling and cosy nights in, WILTM an outgoing, bubbly and kind-hearted female to spend the rest of my life with. Box 445567

HERE WE ARE

Loving, caring male, 36, likes restaurants, drinks, works hard, non smoker, WILTM young lady 25-36, no ties, for lasting relationship. Box 446582

TIME TO TIME

Italian origin male, 36, tall, dark hair and eyes, loves good fun, very handsome, seeks bubbly, outgoing or to take out and spoil. Box 446588

NON-SMOKING

Separated male, 36, fit, good looks and SOH, kind, caring and sensual, into films and fitness. Seeking a cute to share life and love with. Box 445729

EVERYTHING I DO

Lee, driver, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, wilm a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889720

YOUR TIME IS COMING

Maidstone male, 35, dark blond hair, dark eyes, nice looking, have 1 little girl, own business, varied interests, looking for a fun lady, under 40. Box 429375

R U A ME?

Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917

HOP ON!

Hi, I'm Mark, 6ft, slim/medium build, lots of interests including motorbikes, WILTM a kind and honest female to share fun times and laughter with. Box 445124

YOUR KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOUR

Decent genuine guy, 39, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, good looking, seeking someone genuine, fun, and good company to be with forever. Box 446693

TRUE HONESTY, TRUE LOVE

Decent genuine guy, 39, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, good looking, seeking someone genuine, fun, and good company to be with forever. Box 446581



MEN seeking women

SECRET SMILE

Young guy, 19, dark complexion, enjoys socialising, cinema, pubs and clubs, looking for a girl to go out and enjoy life with. Box 446706

AIMING TO PLEASE!

Down to earth guy, 19, slim build, 6ft, green eyes, romantic, likes to socialise and hoping to meet new people, especially the one! Box 446740

ALL THE GOOD THINGS

Hi I'm Rob, 22, 6ft3, short dark hair, hazel eyes, enjoys cinema, sports, nights in, cinema, sports, seeking female 20-28 with GSOH for LTR. Box 446646

BLUE-EYED BOY

5ft8, blond-haired, blue-eyed, average-build guy, 23, likes hanging out with friends, loves fun and going to movies, seeking female to share dates, maybe more. Box 446633

THE FIRST KISS

Liverpool male, 43, loves football, and for NHS, loves fun and going to movies, seeking female to share dates, maybe more. Box 446633

A NICE GUY

Hi, I'm Jim, 6ft, 44, interests include going out, cinema and swimming, WILTM a lady with similar interests and gosh. Box 445650

ILL MAKE YOU LAUGH

Very romantic, caring and loyal male, 31, blue eyes, fair hair, great SOH, seeks female with similar interests for hopeful LTR. Box 446120

DAD'S THE WORD

Lovely single male, 44, 6ft2, fair hair, great SOH, quite happy but looking for a lady 30-60 to have fun with and hopefully something else. Box 446452

HAPPY TOGETHER

White male, 46, 5ft7, easygoing, n/s, loves a laugh, enjoys theme parks, concerts, romantic walks, with a female to be with. Kids no problem. Box 444539

TLC NEEDED ASAP

Genuine hard-working male, 47, slim, good looking, 5ft8, into most things...sports, pubs, meals, socialising, walks, travel...WILTM honest, fit female, for TLC. Eastbourne. Box 444244

GIVE IT A SHOT

Slim-medium build guy, 48, own home, looking for a girl to settle down

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In search of the real Holland

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

I'D LIKE to extend my gratitude to the rowdy group of English tourists who accompanied me on my flight to Amsterdam.

Had it not been for their oh-so-stereotypical Brits abroad 'banter' throughout the entire one-hour journey, I may have been tempted to spend another weekend in the Dutch capital rather than continue on to The Hague as planned.

Luckily, the middle-aged mob's mantra – smoking cannabis and making countless sorties into the red-light district – served only to reinforce my desire to search out a deeper, truer side of Holland.

And that's what I found in The Hague.

The country's third-largest city, known by its inhabitants as Den Haag, provided the backdrop for a perfect city break.

The good people at the Dutch and The Hague tourist boards laid on a packed programme of culture, fine eating, contemporary Brazilian dance/puppetry and drunken dancing on a bar (although this last activity was not originally part of the schedule).

Here's how I spent my time:

FRIDAY: Having arrived in Holland shortly after 11am, less than 30 minutes later we pulled into The Hague Central Station and set off on foot for our hotel, which was conveniently placed near a thriving district of high-street shops, intimate boutiques and restaurants.

Having settled in, we made our way via tram to our first tourist destination, the miniature world of Madurodam.

The outdoor visitor attraction plays home to dozens of meticulously accurate replicas of the area's most recognisable landmarks.

Dinner was taken at the oriental-styled Restaurant Puck, which served up an array of modern fish and meat dishes, all of which was



DONE AMSTERDAM? If so, visit The Hague, which offers superb museums, galleries and a lively bar and restaurant scene

cooked up in the busy, open-view kitchen.

SATURDAY: Having taken in a range of modern art at the Gemeentemuseum we were then given the chance to take in some Dutch classics at the Mauritshuis, Holland's Royal Picture Gallery.

The compact museum boasts priceless works from the likes of Rembrandt and Johannes Vermeer, including the latter's most famous piece, *Girl With A Pearl Earring*.

While the modern art at our first stop was 'interesting', it's hard to gaze upon a bundle of screwed-up paper or two thick, parallel lines on a white canvas with the same admiration as a 300-year-old masterpiece.

With lunchtime fast approaching, we made our way to the delightfully regal Hotel Des Indes for high tea.

Next on the agenda was a whistle-stop tour of The Hague, taking in the city's most prominent buildings.

Highlights included Queen Beatrix's Paleis Noordeinde (official work palace) and the beautiful Binnenhof buildings, which house the Dutch parliament.

The tour was wrapped up with a traditional bite to eat – raw herring with onions. Despite being not much of a fish fan, the Dutch delicacy went down well.

We spent our evening at the Candance Festival taking in a Brazilian contemporary dance/puppetry show, which was less pretentious than the description implies.

The plot loosely centred on the Wizard of Oz, complete with ruby-red slippers and a 6ft foam puppet of the Wicked Witch. Don't ask.

Drinks were then taken at a cosmopolitan pub, where end-of-the-night dancing on the bar seemed like a good idea at the time.

SUNDAY: Hangover. Breakfast. Bus ride to the historic city of Delft. With its ancient canals, churches and city walls, it gives visitors a chance to take in Holland of old.

The 13th-century city, the birthplace of painter Johannes Vermeer, boasts the wondrously-named Oude Kerk (old church) and Nieuwe Kerk (new church), open marketplace and miles of peaceful canals.

It proved the ideal place to wind down from a long weekend.

FACT FILE: THE HAGUE



Travel details

From London to Amsterdam, KLM operates up to 16 routes a day between London Heathrow and London City Airport. Fares start at £118 per person return, including taxes.

For more information and to book, log on to www.klm.com, phone 08705 074 074, or visit your local travel agent.

From London Gatwick to Amsterdam, British Airways operates up to five flights per day.

Fares start at £100 per person return. For more information and to book, log on to www.britishairways.com, phone 0844 493 0787, or visit your local travel agent.

From Amsterdam Airport Schiphol you can take the train to The Hague Central Station; direct trains depart every 30 minutes with a journey time of 31 minutes.

Cost of one-way ticket is 7.30 euros.

Netherlands Board of Tourism and Conventions

W: www.holland.com/uk

E: info-uk@holland.com

The Hague Tourist Information

W: www.denhaag.com

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PROPERTY NEWS

Better news for the first-timers

THE head of a firm specialising in working with first-time buyers says the prospect for the market is improving.

Paul Holmes, chief executive of First-rung, claimed the falling prices of homes meant that more and more properties were coming within the reach of buyers.

However, he added that those who are looking to get on the housing ladder need to ensure their jobs are safe – and will need a larger deposit than previously of about 15 to 20 per cent.

"The good news is that while they [first-time buyers] are saving up for the deposit, house prices will continue to fall and come more in line with affordability and their expectations," said Mr Holmes.

But he added the first stage for newcomers to the market would be them having to save "furiously" for the deposit because of its increase since the credit crunch took hold.



Agents demand action from top

ESTATE agents are calling on the Government to inject some life into the housing market by taking action to help the beleaguered business.

A poll by the National Association of Estate Agents showed 54 per cent had no confidence in the Government, and the body is calling for more interest rate cuts and a suspension of stamp duty.

The most recent findings when it comes to property analysis have prompted the call.

The number of sales per agent was up from six to seven – still historically low – and the number of first-time buyers taking a part in the market increased.

However, there was a seven per cent fall in the number of house-hunters on estate agents' books to 196.

Prices dive slowing

THE rate at which house prices are falling eased in November, according to analysts.

The average cost of a home dropped by just 0.4 per cent during the month, compared with a slide of 1.3 per cent during October, according to the Nationwide Building Society.



HOPEFUL: As sellers are becoming more realistic about the new value of their homes, vendors and surveyors are anticipating a genuine improvement in market conditions

Reality check brings optimism to market

■ BY NICK AMES

LEVELS of home-buying are still falling, but estate agents claim that they are seeing some early positive signs of recovery in the property market.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' (Rics) market survey for October points to a slight upturn in prices – although that is from what was an extreme low.

The main factor found to be depressing prices was the large stock of unsold properties and limited numbers of buyers – but not a surge in forced selling, as a high number of recession-fuelled repossessions has yet to feed into the market.

The number of completed sales per surveyor was also down.

But the feeling of hope across the market is

improving, with more analysts expecting an upturn than had a positive outlook at the start of the autumn.

On average the number of sales per surveyor fell from 11.5 to 10.9 – the lowest on record since 1978 and a fall of 53.6 per cent on a year ago.

Surveyors had on average 80.7 properties on their books.

Rics spokesman Ian Perry said: "The interest rate cut should certainly help support the market now lenders have agreed to pass on the reduction to borrowers.

"Even so, the general lack of mortgage finance remains a major blockage in the housing market for a large majority of would-be buyers."

Along with the two per cent drop in interest rates in two months, surveyors did see some glimmer of hope.

Twenty per cent more chartered surveyors expect an upturn in sales over the next three months, a rise from just four per cent in September.

The increase in optimism is reflected in part by an increasing trend of vendors dropping asking prices, but it may also be a sign there are expectations of a jump in the number of repossessions.

"Many vendors have finally started to accept current market conditions and are dropping their asking prices to achieve a sale," Mr Perry said.

"Sales should increase in the coming months as more and more sellers understand greater realism is the only way to make that long-desired move."

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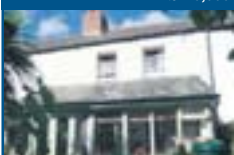
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MOTORS NEWS



Octavia's given facelift to make it even better

SKODA is launching a revised Octavia in January 2009, with an extensive facelift, bringing the Czech marque's best-seller into line with the rest of the current range.

Prices of the new Octavia represent an average increase of £473 for the Octavia Hatch and £478 for the Octavia Estate.

Changes include dynamic, sweeping headlights and complimentary front fog lights, new foldable door mirrors and body coloured bumpers and side mouldings, plus a new look interior with better steering wheels, sound systems and upholstery.

A new 1.4 TSI 122bhp engine replaces the current 1.6 FSI 115bhp and a 2.0 FSI 200bhp engine with DSG transmission will be introduced on the Octavia vRS.



Megane awarded Euro NCAP safety award

RENAULT'S latest Megane is its 11th model to earn the Euro NCAP five-star crash test rating.

Safety kit includes: twin side-impact sensors, an innovation that debuted with Laguna III; six airbags, including two twin-chamber thorax/groin airbags; the Renault System for Restraint and Protection, which combines pretensioners and load limiters with twin-stage dual-chamber adaptive front airbags; new-generation headrests; and ABS and Emergency Brake Distribution come as standard.

Car chief makes a call for Government lifeline

CARMAKERS need Government help to mitigate the impact of a downturn that "looks certain to get worse before it gets better", says a car chief.

It was "appropriate and necessary" for the Government to support the industry, added Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders president Graham Smith.

UK support was needed over and above the proposed 40 billion euro loan package which may soon be agreed by European finance ministers.

"We must collaborate nationally to compete internationally," said Mr Smith. "We have asked for the finance divisions of vehicle manufacturers to get access to the same special liquidity arrangements as are now available to the banks. This access to finance and credit will help to boost demand and support our retail and distribution operations."



NO LAUGHING MATTER: Despite its silly name, Kia's Ceed is a serious threat to Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot, particularly with the offer of a 100,000-mile/seven-year warranty

Sowing a Ceed of doubt in the minds of Ford & Co

KIA'S Ceed hints at why Ford, the original blue-collar brand, is trying to don a white collar.

OK, Ceed is one of the sillier model names on the market, but nobody is laughing at the headquarters of traditional mainstream car-makers like Ford, Vauxhall or Peugeot.

This five-door Ford Focus rival looks good, feels European, is priced keenly and comes with a seven-year/100,000-mile warranty – unprecedented and still unchallenged on the UK market.

It still cannot quite match the Ford dynamically, but the gap is not so great; the interior of the Kia concedes little, while some drivers might prefer its more pliant ride.

The big question for would-be owners though is: which engine? Ceed prices start at £11,270 in supermini territory rather than Focus class, but that buys the 1.4-litre petrol 'cooking' version.

Most buyers will opt instead for a 1.6 petrol (from £11,820) or 1.6 diesel (from £12,570), but it is still a tough call because the old argument that the petrol will be more refined is undermined by the fact that Kia's 1.6 unit is only

ROAD TEST KIA CEED

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

average on that front, while its two diesel sisters are silky for this class.

You pay more upfront for the diesels though and need to be confident of covering enough miles to enable the greater economy to recoup that extra cash.

There is less to ponder about the interior; after a previous generation Kia Rio – the car it replaced effectively, since the current Rio is closer to supermini class – this is a quantum leap in quality and comfort, with a decent built-in CD/audio system and steering wheel controls now arranged in the normal indicators-to-the-left 'European' way.

Try to press on with the Ceed and the forgiving suspension allows it to pitch more than a Focus or Vauxhall Astra, though it is never lacks grip or tests confidence.

If this sounds like a deal-breaker though, try the more tautly arranged three-door Procede version.

There is also a third family member worth considering – the capacious and practical Ceed SW estate.

No wonder Ford & Co are worried.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



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PRICE
WHEN
NEW**

CHOICE OF
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£980
AGAINST PARKER'S PRICE GUIDE

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£199.51	£9590	£1600	£199.51
Final payment	Total amount payable	Total charge for credit	APR
£298.51	£11075.48	£1485.48	9.9%

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CHOICE OF
6

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Parker's Price £14,935*

£12890

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Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 3dr (Climate)
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AutoPlanet Price **£5999**
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56 Reg Renault
Megane 1.6 VVT Expression 5dr
Met Paint • E/Pack • CD • Airbags
Parker's Price £6490*
AutoPlanet Price **£6299**
A fair saving of £191

06 Reg Peugeot
407 2.0 HDi 136 S 4dr
Met Paint • Climate • CD • E/Pack
Parker's Price £7075*
AutoPlanet Price **£6799**
A fair saving of £276

Small Cars Choice of **255**

53 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 206 - Choice of 55	£4,999
51 to 57 Reg	Renault Clio - Choice of 25	£3,999
Y to 07 Reg	Ford Fiesta - Choice of 20	£3,299
51 to 56 Reg	Mini One/Cooper/S - Choice of 25	£7,499
03 to 56 Reg	Toyota Yaris - Choice of 20	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg	Vauxhall Corsa - Choice of 20	£4,799

Medium Cars Choice of **365**

05 to 57 Reg	Mazda3 - Choice of 20	£7,799
06 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 207 - Choice of 25	£6,799
02 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 307 - Choice of 90	£5,299
03 to 57 Reg	Renault Megane - Choice of 25	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg	Ford Focus - Choice of 40	£3,799
02 to 57 Reg	Vauxhall Astra - Choice of 45	£5,499

Large Cars Choice of **215**

54 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 407 - Choice of 50	£5,999
02 to 57 Reg	Renault Laguna - Choice of 10	£3,499
X to 57 Reg	Ford Mondeo - Choice of 70	£3,999
02 to 55 Reg	Toyota Avenis - Choice of 10	£2,199
54 to 57 Reg	Vauxhall Vectra - Choice of 25	£6,799
53 to 56 Reg	VW Passat - Choice of 10	£5,499

MPVs Choice of **140**

54 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 807 - Choice of 10	£9,999
04 to 08 Reg	Renault Scenic - Choice of 10	£5,699
Y to 07 Reg	Citroen Picasso - Choice of 20	£3,799
05 to 08 Reg	Ford Focus C-Max - Choice of 10	£6,499
53 to 08 Reg	Vauxhall Zafira - Choice of 20	£5,499
54 to 07 Reg	VW Sharan - Choice of 15	£9,999

Prestige Cars Choice of **85**

06 to 56 Reg	BMW 1 Series - Choice of 5	£12,999
52 to 07 Reg	BMW 3 Series - Choice of 10	£6,299
53 to 06 Reg	Jaguar X-Type - Choice of 20	£8,299
W to 04 Reg	Lexus IS200 - Choice of 5	£6,499
51 to 55 Reg	Mercedes A-Class - Choice of 10	£5,499
03 to 55 Reg	Mercedes C Class - Choice of 15	£9,499

Sports & 4X4s Choice of **85**

54 to 07 Reg	Mazda MX-5 - Choice of 10	£9,799
04 to 07 Reg	Mazda RX-8 - Choice of 15	£9,499
05 to 56 Reg	Honda CR-V - Choice of 10	£10,599
Y to 06 Reg	Land Rover Freelander - Choice of 10	£5,499
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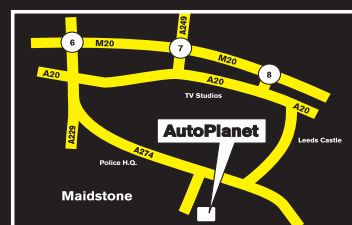
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

DISTINCTIVE MIDI-MPVs

IN 1997, Renault tried a bit of lateral thinking with the 'people carrier' concept it pioneered with the Espacé and came up with the 'midi' or 'compact' MPV (multi-purpose vehicle). The result was the original five-seat Scenic, the blueprint for even more vehicles than the original Espacé inspired, and the impetus for waves of tall, space efficient 'MPV styling' across the whole car market. As one of the new car market's boom sectors over the past few years, it means there is also plenty of choice for user car buyers.

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FIAT MULTIPLA



EARNING top marks with the motoring press for originality when it arrived in 2000, the original Multipla proved simply too wacky looking to generate the sales it deserved. A facelift made it more visually acceptable and its practical qualities began to shine. Relatively compact, it allows six to be seated comfortably and there is plenty of stowage space.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CITROEN XSARA PICASSO



NO apologies for including the Picasso – it quickly trumped Renault's pioneering Scenic to become the best-seller in the new sector. It's only a five-seater, but the 'jelly mould design' smooths the edges of a commodious and flexibly equipped box. The range features excellent turbodiesels and has a good reliability record. Plenty of choice on the used market too.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

HONDA FR-V



THOUGH late into this sector, Honda had time to review the market and decided that Fiat got it right with the Multipla. So the FR-V is another short, wide six-seater with two rows of seats, but not as roomy as the Fiat. Buyers like the peace of mind Honda's engineering gives and how the dash-mounted gearshift creates room in front.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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Optional payment	£4,238.10	Typical APR	8.1%



Model shown is new Fabia GreenLine 1.4 TDI PD 80bhp DPF at £11,495 RRP. **Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the new Fabia GreenLine: Urban 53.3 (5.3), *Extra-urban 83.1 (3.4), Combined 68.9 (4.1). CO₂ emissions for the new Fabia GreenLine 109g/km.**

ALFA ROMEO

SPIDER, 3.2 V6, g57fly, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, traction control, trip computer, blue, 3000 miles, £20995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, SE 5dr, gk02 oec, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, radio, twin air bags, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, blue, 5800 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9tdi 130hp estate, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, 89950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

ARNAGE, red label auto, 2001, biennial silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

3 SERIES, 1.6i Saloon 4d 1596cc, 1316hmo, mot-11/04/08 good runner, green, miles, 69950, DCD Autos, ASHFORD, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

7 SERIES, 735i Auto, 2002, oxford green metallic with beige nappa exclusive, 79000 miles, £11950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

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CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTZ 2.0, gk080w, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7e auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d b white pas 43,000 miles fsh lined, £3995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4i Cool 3dr, 2007, 1.4i cool 3dr hatch sp eds, poseidon blue, 7500 miles, £6995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C-CROSSER, 2.2 HDI Exclusive 5dr, 2007, 2.2 hdi exclusive 5dr metallic estate, blue, 100 miles, £19995, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i Vibe 3dr, 2006, 1.0i vibe 3dr hatch, red, 9525 miles, £4995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C3, 1.1i Cool 5dr, 2007, 1.1i cool 5dr hatch special edition, passion red, 7500 miles, £6495, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6HDI 16V VTR Plus 5dr EGS, 1.6hdi 16v vtr plus 5dr eggs diesel hatch, icelandic grey, 1000 miles, £13495, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C6, 2.0 HDI 16V SX 5dr [136], 2007, 2.0 hdi 16v sx 5dr [136] diesel estate, silver, 8995 miles, £15995, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

FIAT

PUNTO, active 1.2, 2003, silver, 45000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

SCUDO EL, 05 2000, 2.0 jtd 3 seats twin doors white 119,000 no vat, 0 miles, £2400, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CINQUECENTO, m/1994, manual locking manual windows, red, 74,000 miles, Ewas £695 now £595, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275799 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 16v, 1995, red, 72451 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

MAREA, TD 100 SX Weekend, 1998, red, 106000 miles, £995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PANDA, Active 5dr, eo04eow, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, rear spoiler, abs, air bag, power steering, electric front windows, cd player, blue, 5000 miles, £3995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.6TDCi Style 5dr (2007 -), 29/09/2007, cd player abs driver airbag power steering electric windows, silver, 4694 miles, £9500, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia, 2004, panther black, 35600 miles, £5995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 3dr, ak08tpj, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, insurance group 7, black, 16 miles, £11990, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FUSION, 1.6 TDCi Plus 5dr (2005 -), 31/01/2008, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 6747 miles, £10000, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr [6] (2006 -), 01/03/2006, silver, 13299 miles, £15500, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, Zetec Climate, 2008, moon dust silver, 0 miles, £6995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5dr [6] (2007 -), 17/12/2007, blue, 7709 miles, £18000, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, High Roof Van TDCi 115PS, bt56yze, warranty, white, 39999 miles, £13490, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

HONDA

CIVIC 5 DOOR, 30/06/2005, cd player driver airbag power steering electric windows, silver, 22955 miles, £5000, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, Gsi 5dr, gk52ymp, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, stereo, aluminium silver, 60000 miles, £2699, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

AMICA, CDX 5dr, gu08htp, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, rear headrests, folding rear seats, head restraints, parking sensor, abs, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, air conditioning, blue, 2000 miles, £9495, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

COUPE, SE 1975cc 3 door, 2006, cd player air conditioning alloy wheels central locking approved driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, silver, 17200 miles, £7995, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

MATRIX, 1.6 GSi 5dr Auto, 10/05/2006, red, 36597 miles, £4990, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

XJ V8, 4.0 sovereign lwb, 2002, seafrost blue met with catkin leather interior, 71000 miles, £9950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDi GS 5dr, gl07wjp, air-conditioning, abs + ebd, air, cd player, insurance group 10, red, 17900 miles, £2994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

SORENTO, XS 2.5, gl06vcv, finished in blue with interior, blue, 16000 miles, £10985, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 2.5P Hard Top, e611vop, tow pack, radio cassette, power steering, 4x4, road tax (plg) is £185 per year on this vehicle. blue, 57000 miles, £4995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TDi County Station Wagon, 10941054, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, power steering, tow pack, side steps, rear wash/wipe, sunroof, 4x4, road tax (plg) is £185 per year on this vehicle. niagra grey metallic, 137000 miles, £7295, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

MAZDA

GS, 2005, blue metallic, 19299 miles, £6495, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

C CLASS, C180k Avantgarde SE, 4763314, alloy wheels, cubanite silver, 14000 miles, £17995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

MG

MGF, MG TF L5000 Special Edition 135, 58, petrol, orange, 10 miles, £16398, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER S, 1.6 3 DR, 2002, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, blue, 42000 miles, £9395, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, 1.5 Sport, 2004, black, miles, £6995, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

NISSAN

MICRA, 1.2 SE Automatic, 2004, techno grey, 22500 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

106, independence, 2001, met green, 28000 miles, £2495, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, Privilege, feb 06, 5 doors, automatic, hatchback, petrol, 13, 075 miles, metallic grey, 2 owners. 3x3 point rear seat belts, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, cloth seat trim, climate control, cruise control, drivers airbag, electric door mirrors, folding rear seats, front electric windows, front head restraints, full size spare wheel, heated door mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, immobiliser, softx child seat anchor points, lumbar support, pas, passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear electric windows, rear headrests, rear wiper, remote central locking, service indicator, side airbags, steering wheel rake adjustment, computer full service Renault history/vast service 27/10/09, 2 months tax, insurance group 5, grey, £7250, KENT, 01843585186 (PRIVATE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

25, IMPRES 1, gm04fhg, finished in starlight silver with grey interior, silver, 35000 miles, £3899, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

SKODA

SKODA OCTAVIA ESTATE, 03 2000, 2.0 gl air/con elec windows 80,000 miles blue fsh no vat, £1495, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

SUBARU

IMPREZA, wrx turbo, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

SWIFT, 2008, cosmic black, 1750 miles, £7995, WJ King Vauxhall, Woolwich, 020 8854 8161 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

AYGO, 1.0 Vt-1 + 3dr, 2006, 1.0 vvt-1 + 3dr hatch, grey, 14726 miles, £5995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

AGILA, 1199cc 5 door Enjoy, 2001, history check, 76350 miles, £2595, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

VOLKSWAGEN

CADDY, C20 SDi, lb05kfl, side load door, bulkhead, cd player, colour coded body, air bag, abs, traction control, remote central locking, ply-lined, 16" alloys, blue, 30000 miles, £5195, Cleanways Commercial, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GOLF, 2.8 vr6, 1998, black, 93000 miles, £2500, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

POLO, 1.4 CL Hatchback 3dr, V1999, a/con pas electric windows electric mirrors radio/cd player, bright red, 63,000 miles, £2295, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

Lupo

Lupo, E 3dr, g54uhl, power steering, metallic paintwork, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, aluminium silver, 27000 miles, £4995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

S80, 2.4 DS SE Saloon 4d 2401cc (2002), 02, full leather fully loaded, gold, miles, £5750, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

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05 (05) Toyota Corolla Verso 1.6 21,000 miles, only 1 owner, FSH, Ac, 7 seats, air bags, abs etc	£7995
03 (53) Renault Grande Espace 2.2 dci only 63,000 miles full service history, two owners, multi CD player, superb throughout.....	£6995
03 (03) Skoda Actavia Classic Sdi 1.9, diesel estate, 2 owners, twin airbags, cd player, power steering, manual windows, vgc	£3995
02 (02) Ford Focus 1.8 TDi, 5dr, 2 Owners, Only 77,500 Miles, Full service History, Air Con, Heated Front Screen, Air Bag Etc	£3995
04 (04) Suzuki Ignis gl 1.3 3dr 1,owner, f.s.h, 50,000miles, elec windows, elec door mirrors, twin air bags, front fogs, v.g.c/d player. (blue)	£3250
02 (52) Ford Mondeo 1.8 LX Estate Full service history only 58,000 miles from new, roof bars, air conditioning, abs, air bags etc	£3250
98 (S) Landrover Freelander XEDi diesel 3 door only 59,000 miles full service history just arrived	£3250
99 (V) Mazda 323 fse 1.8 5dr hatchback, 2 owners, fmdsh, electric s/r, air con, e/w, edm, twin airbags, alloys, traction control, vgc	£2995
00 (W) Peugeot 206 gti 2.0 3dr, 2,owners, s.h, climate air con, twin air bags, a.b.s, multi-c/d,elec windows, elec door mirrors, alloys, rear spoiler, sport seats, 80,000 miles, (blue)	£2495

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Lineage
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Senior & General Appointments 39-43

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PASTORAL SUPPORT ASSISTANT

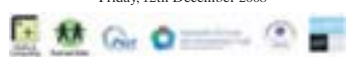
We require a full time Pastoral Support Assistant who would be prepared to act as a Cover Supervisor for 37 hours per week, term time only to start in January 2009. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway Grade D2 - Salary range £14,782 - £18,799 pro rata.

The school is expanding its team of support staff in order to enhance our pastoral structure and allow teachers to be at the forefront of learning. Do you relate well to young people? Could you support students at times when they meet barriers to their learning? Would you be able to liaise with parents, teachers and other professionals in support of individuals? Would you be interested in developing your skills with classes of young people?

If so, please contact Mrs J Harrison for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008.

Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications
- Friday, 12th December 2008



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Required for January 2009
Kent Pay Scheme Band 5
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Sellindge Primary School,
Main Road, Sellindge, Kent TN25 6JY
Tel: 01303-812073

Email: headteacher@sellindge-ashford.kent.sch.uk

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The main role is to supervise and provide instruction to students in the absence of subject teachers for lessons provided. The Classroom Manager will also be responsible for carrying out other tasks that are related to the learning environment.

For more information and an application form please contact:

Miss S Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College,
Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED.
Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk
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For an informal discussion please contact Sue Piper 01795 845245. For an application pack please visit www.demelza.org.uk or contact our recruitment line on 01795 845295.

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For an informal discussion please contact Judith Armitt on 01233 330811.

Alternatively for an application form and further details, please send an A4 stamped addressed envelope to:

Personnel and Development, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL

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Closing date: 19 December 2008

Contact: Mrs Julie Allen – julie.allen@nhs.net

Career Opportunities

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Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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Ref 06/103

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2 posts at 37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Ref 08/40

Temporary Lecturer Performing Arts and Contemporary Dance

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Ref 08/152

Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed one year

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Ref S/DN

Ref S/IAG

Ref S/MH

Ref S/MID

Ref S/C&H

Ref S/KSAC

Ref S/EY

Supply Trainer Demonstrators

Various hours available, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Ref S/TD/ME

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Ref TD8

Trainer Demonstrator Hospitality & Catering

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Ref 08/153

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Ref CLC1

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Ref ACC1

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New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering

Engineering Opportunities: £35,000 - £40,000 (Snr Post c£45k)

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to strengthen the teams already in place at the RSME as the 30 year contract transitions to the Colleges management team.

We have opportunities for experienced engineers (ideally degree qualified) to move into lecturing roles. The Professional Engineering Wing (PEW) of the RSME develops military personnel into Clerk of Works to iEng, foundation degree and HND level.

We have positions for:

Electrical Engineers with DC, AC & single/three phase, power generation, transmission & distribution up to 11kV, generators & motors and domestic installations knowledge and experience.

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Construction Engineers with groundwork, timber, masonry & scaffolding, superstructures, finishes and services knowledge and experience.

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Civil Engineer (Snr post) ICE with "contractor" background.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development and will be fully supported to gain additional relevant qualifications, memberships and accreditations that develop you as an engineer and benefit the PEW faculty.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 31st January 2009

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



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New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering

Support Opportunities

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

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Workshop Assistant £19,008 - £21,000 – to provide practical support within the Fitter Department, assisting with the smooth running of the stores, light maintenance duties and the movement of equipment. Would suit someone with a mechanical background and a current Fork Lift Licence.

ICT Site Engineer £19,736 - £25,441 – to provide support and maintenance in response to "logged" fault calls. Must be familiar with the configuration and use of all Microsoft desk top operating systems and experienced with configuring and installing computer hardware/ancillary components.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and/or experience relevant for these posts, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 5th December 2008

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Staff benefits include:

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- Close to Town Centre

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 8th December 2008 at 12 noon

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For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 30th November 2008

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



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ADMIN AND CLERICAL / DOMESTIC SERVICES

Job Title: Clinic Support Clerk

Salary: £12,922 to £15,950 pa
Band: 2
Hours: 3.5
Location: Chatham
Ref: 767-ECS444
Closing date: 04/12/08

Job Title: Secretary to Head of IM&T

Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Band: 3
Hours: 37.5
Location: Trinity House, Ashford
Ref: 767-ASH228
Closing date: 05/12/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY REGISTERED

Job Title: Community Health Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Dover Health Centre
Ref: 767-ASH226
Closing date: 05/12/08

Job Title: Community Health Nurse (School Nursing)

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 30
Location: Dover Health Centre
Ref: 767-ASH227
Closing date: 05/12/08

Job Title: Staff Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Faversham Cottage Hospital
Ref: 767-ASH229
Closing date: 06/12/08

Job Title: Nurse Practitioner MIU

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Sheppey Community Hospital
Ref: 767-ASH230
Closing date: 06/12/08

Job Title: Clinical Nurse Specialist x 3

Salary: £29,091 - £38,385
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Protea House, Dover
Ref: 767-ECC645
Closing date: 11/12/08

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Job Title: Highly Specialist Obesity Dietitian

Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Sittingbourne Research Centre
Ref: 767-ASH191
Closing date: 03/12/08

Job Title: Prescribing Project Dietitian

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: William Harvey Hospital, Ashford
Ref: 767-ASH232
Closing date: 08/12/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team & Early Years)

Salary: £20,225 - £26,123
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: QVMH, Herne Bay & Local Primary Schools, Thanet
Ref: 767-ECC637
Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapist (Language Unit & Early Years)

Salary: £20,225 - £26,123
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Laleham Gap School & Canterbury Health Centre
Ref: 767-ECC638
Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Thanet Schools Team)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Mill Lane House, Margate
Ref: 767-ECC635
Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team & Early Years)

Salary: £20,225 - £26,123
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Whitstable Health Centre & Local Primary Schools
Ref: 767-ECC639
Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Mill Lane House, Margate
Ref: 767-ECC634
Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Highly Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team)

Salary: £29,091 - £38,352
Band: 7
Hours: 26.25
Location: Canterbury & Faversham Schools
Ref: 767-ECC631
Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Early Years)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653
Band: 6
Hours: 18.75
Location: Seashells Children's Centre, Sheerness
Ref: 767-ECC632
Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (ASD/Secondary School Service)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Spring Lane Neighbourhood Centre, Canterbury
Ref: 767-ECC633
Closing date: 16/12/08

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL SERVICES

Job Title: Healthcare Assistant

Salary: £12,922 to £15,950 pa
Band: 2
Hours: 30
Location: Faversham Cottage Hospital
Ref: 767-ASH231
Closing date: 08/12/08

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The successful candidate will be required to undertake a CRB Enhanced Disclosure check prior to the start of employment.

Please apply in writing for an application pack at the above address to Mrs Bridget Harvey, Head of Technology, or via email to: recruitment@ursuline.org.uk

Closing date: Wednesday 10th December 2008

Ursuline College is safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff/volunteers to share this commitment.

The National Autistic Society is the UK's leading charity for people affected by autism. We provide a wide range of advice, information, support and specialist services to 100,000 people each year, and campaign and lobby positive change for the half a million people in the UK with autism.



Lead Teacher and Head of Further Education Department

Helen Allison School
Longfield Road, Meopham, Kent DA13 0EW
LS3 – 11

Required January 09 or asap

Helen Allison School is an independent school that provides specialist education and care for 70 children and young people with an autistic spectrum disorder aged 5-19 years. We have a residential provision that caters for 29 students on a 38 week basis.

We are looking for a qualified teacher with experience of teaching children with autism and Asperger syndrome. You will have responsibility for the management and curriculum of our current off-site Further Education Department. A new Further Education premises is in the process of being planned and you will be involved with this exciting development. In addition you will promote best practice through monitoring the teaching, learning and assessment throughout the school.

This is an excellent opportunity if you are keen to meet new challenges as part of our senior leadership team. In return for your commitment, we will give you all the support and encouragement you need to develop. You will also benefit from a significant training and resource budget.

For further information, visits or an informal discussion please contact Rosie Williams, Deputy Principal Education on 01474 814878 or email helenallison@nas.org.uk

Closing date: 12.00 Midday Monday 15 December 2008

Applications are sought from all suitably qualified sections of the community but particularly welcome from those with a diagnosis of autism or Asperger syndrome.

Please note: this post requires us to ask about the successful applicant's criminal record/s and proceed with an Enhanced Disclosure application. You will also be required to complete a Health Management Pre-Employment Health Questionnaire.

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- All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
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- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts on KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card effective July 2008-June 2009 and will reflect the reduction in commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met to be paid by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by other party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production by the advertiser. Should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement, the advertiser will be required to pay the rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to agree to TV production by the advertiser given between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
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 - Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
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- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belongs to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

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Effective from June 2008

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The successful candidate should have good interpersonal skills and be computer literate with competent typing skills and a sound knowledge of Microsoft Office. Previous experience in an education background is desirable but not essential. A flexible nature and attention to detail is most important and a professional attitude is essential.

Basic hours will be 8.30am to 4.30pm, term-time only, but there will also be a requirement to work evenings on an occasional basis. This will be paid at the appropriate overtime rate.

Informal visits to the school and centre are welcome. Please contact the Assistant Headteacher, Lisa Candy, or Bursar, Carole Rough, in order to discuss the post and obtain further details.

Website: www.ifieldschool.co.uk E-mail: ifieldschool@aol.com
Closing date: 5 December 2008

Ifield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Appointment to this position will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

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Closing date: 15th December 2008.
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with Business Editor
TONY PATEY

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Focus on staff welfare pays off for holiday park

KEEPING its staff as happy as its customers has won Ashcroft Coast Holiday Park, near Leysdown, the national Investors in People award.

The title provides a framework for improving performance and competitiveness through training and development.

Gary Cook, general manager, said: "As part of our parent company, Park Resorts, we already had good practices in place, including training courses and a mystery shopper scheme.

"Since we started working with Investors in People I now hold weekly heads-of-department meetings and they in turn have their own team meetings.

"We also have 'Ten on Ten' daily, a ten-minute get-together to discuss any issues arising and which helps boost morale."

Marketing on the menu at breakfast meetings

A SERIES of business breakfasts offering practical marketing help and advice has been organised by the Kent branch of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM).

Using professional marketers and aimed at the county's small and medium sized businesses (SMEs), Simply Better Marketing will help people make the most of marketing resources.

The first three events will offer businesses simple marketing advice. They will be run in conjunction with Business Link and hosted by Canterbury Christ Church University at Hall Place Enterprise Centre, Harbledown.

They are on February 25, March 25 and April 30. The Kent Branch of the CIM has more than 1,000 members.

For details, visit www.cim.co.uk.

Buy local to boost county economy this Christmas

PRODUCED IN KENT, the champion of food and drink producers across the county, is hoping more people than ever will take a trip to their local farm shops, independent retailers and farmers' markets when getting ready for Christmas.

Many families will be looking for ways to save money this year and it is also a time when local producers can compete with supermarkets in terms of seasonal staples.

Market research has shown that every £10 spent on local produce is worth £25 to the Kent economy, compared with only £14 when it's spent in a supermarket.

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Banks' turn to help firms out of bad debt

■ BY TONY PATEY

BANKS had better pull out their fingers and start lending at sensible levels to struggling businesses.

The stiff verdict comes after the news that more than half of UK accountants reckon bad debts are one of the biggest worries for bosses.

Research by invoice and asset-based lender Venture Finance shows the knock-on domino effect of lack of cash, leading to late payments among firms along the chain, is unsurprisingly having a major impact.

Up to now, lack of liquidity – ready day-to-day cash – in the general banking market has already meant companies face difficulties when trying to re-finance – resulting in businesses of all sizes experiencing more and more late payments and bad debt.

Available

In Chancellor Alistair Darling's pre-Budget report last week the Government agreed a whopping £4 billion deal with the European Investment Bank for banks to pass on, and seven UK banks have already asked to be part of the action, and could be making money available by the end of the year.

There is also the credit worth £1bn to small firms which will be offered by the Government via a temporary Small Business Finance Scheme, and Mr Darling said from January that there will be short-term working capital help to small exporters to the tune of another £1bn.

Venture, which has a regional office in Canterbury covering the whole county, says that small and

medium sized enterprises (SMEs) feel threatened by forecasts that the number of business failures between 2007 and 2009 is expected to increase by 18 per cent.

But scores of businesses have no bad debt protection in place, often, it says, a result of having misplaced confidence in their customers.

Just one in five of accountants surveyed had business clients currently using protection services.

Dangerous

Tim Bourner, Venture's Canterbury business development manager, said: "The misguided assumption that 'it will never happen to me' is very dangerous, especially in these uncertain times.

"It is predicted that insolvency levels will continue to rise throughout this year and next, surpassing even those of the dot.com bubble burst in 2002, which saw almost 20,000 business fail, and the subsequent ripples will be far-reaching.

"It is encouraging, however, to see that accountants recognise the value of bad debt protection – perhaps because they have witnessed the consequences of businesses not doing so in the past."

Bad debt protection gives full cover on invoices, providing small to medium enterprises peace of mind and sheltering business against unforeseen loss of income.

Especially for a young company, late payment and non-payment can have a significant effect on cashflow, causing huge financial strain and threatening business security.



BIG DEAL: The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alistair Darling, announced a £7 billion package of measures for the county's businesses in his pre-Budget report last week

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Hythe hit five but Fisk is still left wanting more

Picture IGOR KUPCO



STAYING PUT: Dave Cook (left) has turned down an approach from Holmesdale

HYTHE Town can return to the top of the Kent League table this week-end after another comfortable victory over Sporting Bengal United on Saturday.

Paul Fisk's side won 10-1 when the sides met in a cup game at Reachfields in October and Hythe again came out handsomely on top against the division's basement side.

A Dave Cook penalty opened the scoring before Scott Bouvier and Pat Kingwell made it 3-0 at half-time.

Bouvier added a fourth on 64 minutes before Gary Mickelborough completed the scoring late on.

Fisk said: "I think after recent results everyone expects to get nine or ten against them."

"It's strange because you've won 5-0,

FOOTBALL

Hythe Town 5

Sporting Bengal United 0

but you come away feeling slightly disappointed."

With the games involving the top two succumbing to the weather, Hythe took full advantage and moved up to second.

They lie one point behind Holmesdale and with the leaders in cup action at the weekend Town will go top if they avoid defeat at struggling Lordswood.

Hythe have been top several times in the last two seasons, but on each occa-

sion have been quickly knocked off.

Fisk has been happy to be in the chasing pack in recent weeks but is hoping his side have learnt from previous experience.

He said: "The more times we are up there the more we will get used to it and handle it better."

"I just want us to keep hanging in there - before the end of the season there will be many twists and turns."

The Reachfields boss was also delighted that Cook turned down an approach from Holmesdale. The mid-fielder has scored 12 goals this season and is a key player for Fisk.

He said: "Holmesdale might have been playing a few mind games, but we are really pleased Dave's staying."

Vahid triple caps a shock win at Erith

A HAT-TRICK from Stuart Vahid gave Deal Town their best result of the season as they beat in-form Erith & Belvedere.

The striker's ninth-minute goal was the difference between the sides at half-time. Dave Bathgate's penalty doubled the lead before Aaron Robinson made it 3-0 with 20 minutes remaining.

Vahid completed his hat-trick with goals either side of Sam Pretti's consolation to wrap up a 5-1 victory.

Derek Hares's men have lost just once in seven matches in the league and are now up to sixth place.

They take on leaders Holmesdale in the League Cup second round on Saturday, trailing 2-0 from the first leg.

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Catch up with the action from Invicta Dynamis' game against Oxford City Stars

Cricketing colts get their due rewards

KENT stars Geraint Jones and James Tredwell turned out to award the prizes at Folkestone Cricket Club's Colts presentation evening on Friday.

Jordan Aird, Bradley Goodsell and Peter Turnbull won the player of the year awards for their respective teams.

Tyler Robus, Sammy Bough and Dominic Lagrue were named as the most improved players in their squads.

For the first time Folkestone have had players picked for county trials, with Turnbull already accepted into the under-15 squad.

Indoor training at the club begins on January 5.

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STRENGTHENING: On-loan Gillingham winger Tayler Thomas (left) grabbed the winner on Saturday for Invicta, who have signed Darren Smith (in blue) and Joe Neilson

New signings give Invicta squad much-needed boost

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Walton Casuals 0

Folkestone Invicta 1

Thomas 5

a one-goal success at struggling Walton Casuals.

They began the game brightly and could have gone ahead in the opening two minutes when Tayler Thomas was through on goal, but the teenager shot straight at the goalkeeper.

But when the on-loan Gillingham winger had a similar chance with the next attack he made no mistake, scoring his second goal in as many games.

The Seaside's defended well and in difficult conditions ground out an important win. It rounded off a good week for the club on the pitch, following a 6-0 midweek Kent Senior Cup

Folkestone starting XI



Subs used: Lindsey (Burchell 55), Neilson (Thomas 70), Rainbow (Vincent 80)

win against Chatham Town. After Saturday's game, Cugley praised his side, particularly Thomas, who has extended his loan deal by another month.

He said: "I was pleased for the lads to get a win. We have been playing quite well recently but not getting our rewards."

"Tayler is starting to do very well for us. It's difficult to come in on loan, but he's getting to grips with this level now."

• Invicta will attempt on Saturday to win back-to-back league games for the first time since September when they host Fleet Town.

Second-half goal blitz is enough to down Angels

FOOTBALL

BY TOM HOWARD

Dover Athletic 3

Collin 47, Moore 56, Ball 60

Tonbridge Angels 0

THREE goals in the space of 15 second-half minutes ensured Dover Athletic claimed the bragging rights in a feisty Kent derby at Crabble.

The game started in explosive fashion with both sides eager to gain the early advantage.

Tonbridge, who started the day in fourth place, created the first chance with two minutes on the clock. Leon Legge met a corner, but his header sailed over John Whitehouse's crossbar.

It did not take long for Dover to gain a foothold in the game. Matt Fish shot wide and minutes later Shaun Welford's effort was scrambled off the line by the Tonbridge defence.

Dover continued to attack and Welford almost opened the scoring on 17 minutes. The former Ramsgate striker spotted the goalkeeper off the line, but his ball fell just short.

Despite being on the back foot, Tonbridge nearly silenced the home crowd shortly after as Ade Olorunda was allowed time and space in the area, but his effort was blocked on the line by Laurence Ball.

The Whites finished the half the stronger of the two sides and should have opened the scoring through Lee Browning, but he dragged his effort narrowly wide.



HEADING SOUTH: Frannie Collin's (in white) goal just after half-time set up an excellent win for league leaders Dover

Dover starting XI



Subs used: Hughes (Collin 78), Keister (Pouton 82)

The respective managers stuck with the same line-ups for the second half, but whatever Whites boss Andy Hessenthaler said during the break certainly helped Dover.

The league leaders effectively wrapped up the game with three strikes within 15

minutes of the restart. First, a long ball over the Tonbridge defence found Frannie Collin with space to run into and he made no mistake with his finish, placing the ball into the bottom corner beyond goalkeeper Lee Worgan.

With the Dover fans still celebrating, the Whites doubled their advantage.

A pinpoint cross found the unmarked Sammy Moore, who headed into the net.

The three points were ensured on the hour from another cross, which this time was tapped in by Ball.

A 15th victory in 17 games kept Dover eight points clear at the top ahead of Saturday's trip to Harrow Borough.

• Athletic were due to be in League Cup action at home to Canvey Island last night. Log on to www.yourdover.co.uk for the report.

FOOTBALL



PLEASED: Boss Hessenthaler wants more from team

Hessenthaler keen to see Whites go on another winning run

ANDY Hessenthaler is calling for his Dover Athletic players to eclipse their run of 11 consecutive league victories after beating play-off challengers Tonbridge Angels.

Second-half goals from Frannie Collin, Sammy Moore and Laurence Ball were enough to sink the Angels and maintain their eight-point lead at the top of the Ryman Premier League.

The win was Dover's second consecutive league victory since their defeat to Sutton United earlier this month.

Hessenthaler, who was delighted with the victory, is calling for more from his players.

He said: "It is a nice win. It keeps our momentum going. We had 11 wins on the bounce [before Sutton] and we want to go and do that again."

"We have gone one point past the target I have set this month, which is pleasing. There was nothing in the first half at all. It was difficult for us as we tried to pass the ball and they cut it out. Tonbridge are a good side and they will take points off most."

"In the second half we started a bit sloppily, but then we got the goal and it gave us a bit of confidence. After that we went on to have a fantastic five-minute spell."

"The second goal was outstanding – what a cross from Shaun Welford. The boys have given him a bit of stick as they have been asking where he got that cross from."

Despite a Kent Senior Cup exit to Ebbsfleet United last week, the Dover boss praised his players' efforts and felt his part-time side equipped themselves well against the FA Trophy holders.

He was particularly impressed by two 16-year-olds, Dan Miller and Dan Allen, who made their first-team debut in the 1-0 loss.

He said: "I thought they did very well. Dan Miller worked his socks off up front and credit to him. We also had a young goalkeeper, Jake Marsh, with us, but unfortunately because he was 15 he was too young as the rules say you have to be 16."

LEAGUE TABLES (not including midweek matches)

RYMAN PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Dover Athletic	17	15	0	2	+24	45
2 Carshalton Athletic	19	11	4	4	+7	37
3 Staines Town	17	11	3	3	+14	36
4 Canvey Island	20	10	5	5	+13	35
5 Tonbridge Angels	19	9	5	5	+11	32
6 Maidstone United	18	9	3	6	+7	30
7 Tooting & Mitcham U	19	9	2	8	+2	29
8 Ashford Town (Mx)	17	9	0	8	+4	27
9 Billericay Town	18	7	5	6	-6	26
10 Wealdstone	20	7	4	9	+1	25
11 AFC Hornchurch	17	7	4	6	+1	25
12 Hastings United	19	8	0	11	-8	24
13 Sutton United	16	6	5	5	-3	23
14 Horsham	18	7	2	9	-8	23
15 Boreham Wood	18	6	4	8	-7	22
16 Harlow Town	15	6	3	6	+5	21
17 Dartford	18	6	3	9	-3	21
18 Margate	20	5	3	12	-13	18
19 Harrow Borough	18	4	6	8	-14	18
20 Ramsgate	19	3	7	9	-13	16
21 Hendon	18	4	3	11	-3	15
22 Heybridge Swifts	18	1	7	10	-11	10

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Kingstonian	18	11	5	2	+22	38
2 Metropolitan Police	19	9	7	3	+12	34
3 Fleet Town	18	9	6	3	+17	33
4 Cray Wanderers	18	10	3	5	+14	33
5 Dulwich Hamlet (3)	19	10	5	4	+15	32
6 Folkestone Invicta	19	8	6	5	+4	30
7 Merstham	17	9	3	5	+3	30
18 Croydon Athletic	18	4	4	10	-8	16
19 Walton Casuals	19	4	4	11	-13	16
20 Corinthian-Casuals	19	3	5	11	-21	14
21 Whitstable Town	19	4	2	13	-25	14
22 Crowborough Ath	18	3	3	12	-19	12

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Holmesdale	15	10	3	2	+16	33
2 Hythe Town	14	10	2	2	+18	32
3 Tunbridge Wells	13	10	0	3	+12	30
4 Herne Bay	14	8	1	5	+10	25
5 Faversham Town	12	8	0	4	+23	24
6 Deal Town	14	5	4	5	+2	19
7 Sevenoaks Town	14	5	4	5	0	19
8 Erith & Belvedere	10	6	1	3	-1	19
9 Greenwich Borough	13	6	1	6	-2	19
10 Erith Town	12	5	3	4	+5	18
11 Slade Green	15	5	3	7	-2	18
12 VCD Athletic	11	5	1	5	+11	16
13 Norton Sports	12	5	1	6	-8	16
14 Beckenham Town	15	4	2	9	-3	14
15 Croydon	11	4	1	6	-1	13
16 Lordswood	13	1	1	11	-21	4
17 Sporting Bengal Utd	14	0	0	14	-59	0

FIXTURES (Saturday): Ryman Premier Division – Harrow Borough v Dover Athletic; Ryman Division One South – Folkestone Invicta v Fleet Town; Kent League Premier Division – Lordswood v Hythe Town

Dover enjoy return to county town with comprehensive win



POWERFUL: Dover came out on top in trying conditions at The Mote against the league's bottom team Maidstone

IMPROVING: Dover became the latest side to pile the misery on to rock-bottom Maidstone as they ruthlessly made the most of their chances at The Mote.

It was the first meeting between the two sides in the county town for more than 25 years, but the Sharks came out on top despite not being at their best.

Conditions underfoot were made difficult by a constant drizzle which led to numerous handling errors as both sides struggled with the greasy ball.

Maidstone had lost every game they had played this season, but the early exchanges were fairly even.

The deadlock was broken on 15 minutes when Maidstone were penalised on their own 22 for holding on in the tackle.

Martyn Beaumont slotted the penalty to give the visitors a 3-0 lead.

They went on to increase the pressure on

RUGBY

Maidstone 5 Dover 28

Maidstone and it led to a mistake as an attempted chip went awry, gifting a try to Beaumont, who added the conversion.

Despite their league position, Maidstone heads did not drop and they got back in the game with an unconverted try from Ed Laurent.

But after the break they limply handed over the ascendancy when they lost the ball from their own scrum and Beaumont eventually dived over.

Dover killed any lingering hopes of a Maidstone victory ten minutes later when Buster Collins touched down. Beaumont rounded off a good afternoon with another penalty and try to complete the scoring.

• The Sharks host Gravesend this weekend.

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Gills boss Mark Stimson on the loss of the club's scouting network

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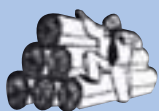
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